



**Early Learning Centre**

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## **Child Illness and Exclusion Policy**

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### **Rational**

Exclusion of children with infectious diseases as per Health Regulations from Early Childhood Centres is sometimes necessary where there is potential for further spread of infection. Little Pioneers Early Learning Centre wish to make the children and adults safe from infection by spelling out clearly under what circumstances a child should be excluded.

Exclusion is at the Centre director's discretion.

### **Reference and Key Text:**

Licensing Criteria 2008, Health and Safety, Child Health and Well-Being documentation required:

HS24: Rooms used by children are kept at a comfortable temperature no lower than 16° (at 500mm above the floor) while children are attending.

HS25: There is an adult present at all times while children are attending who either:  
. Holds a current First Aid qualification meeting the training requirements outlined by the Department of Labour.

If a child is injured, any required first aid is administered or supervised by an adult meeting these qualifications requirements.

Documentation required:

1. Records include;

The child's name;

The date, time, and description of the incident;  
Actions taken and by whom; and  
Evidence of parental knowledge of the incident.

HS26: All practical steps are taken to ensure that children do not come into contact with any person (adult or child) on the premises who is suffering from a disease or condition likely to be passed on to children and likely to have a detrimental effect on them.

- . The action specified in Appendix 2 is taken for any person (adult or child) suffering from particular infectious diseases; and
- . Children who become unwell while attending the service are kept in a safe distance from other children (to minimise the spread of infection) and returned to the care of parent or other person authorised to collect the child without delay.

PF27: There is space (away from where food is stored, prepared, or eaten) where a sick child can;

Be temporarily kept at a safe distance from other children (to prevent cross infection);

- . Lie down comfortably; and
- . Be supervised.

PF28: There is a first aid kit that:

- .complies with the requirements of Appendix 1: and
- . is inaccessible to children.

### **Te Whariki:**

Well-being - Goal 1. Children experience an environment where their health is promoted.

The licensee of our licensed Centre will take all reasonable steps to ensure that any child suffering from any infectious disease listed in Schedule 2 of the Health (Infectious and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations 1966 will be excluded from the Centre.

## Procedures:

### (REASONS TO EXCLUDE A CHILD FROM LITTLE PIONEERS EARLY LEARNING CENTRE.)

- ✚ A child suffering from any of the following symptoms will be required to leave the Centre AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. If a parent is unavailable or unable to remove their child soon enough, the emergency contact person listed on the child's enrolment form WILL be contacted.
- ✚ The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in programme activities.
- ✚ The illness results in a greater care need than Little Pioneers Early Learning Centre can reasonably provide without compromising the health and safety of the other children.
- ✚ The Centre has an available area set aside for children who are attending the Centre and become ill to wait until their parents/caregivers collect them. They will be supervised at all times.
- ✚ The child has any of the following conditions: fever, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, persistent runny nose or cough, or other signs of possible severe illness.
- ✚ A child will sent home immediately from Centre if they have diarrhoea and vomiting.
- ✚ A child with diarrhoea should not attend until they have at least one normal bowel motion and 48 hours after their last motion.
- ✚ A child who has vomiting, unless the vomiting is known to be caused by a non-communicable condition and the child is not in danger of dehydration.
- ✚ Children cannot return to the Centre until 48 hours have passed that they have ceased vomiting.
- ✚ If a child is lethargic or generally out of sorts their parents / caregivers will be contacted to decide on a plan. Management discretion.
- ✚ Rash with fever or behaviour change, until a doctor has determined that the illness is not a communicable disease.

- ✚ Conjunctivitis - until child has received eye drops and is being treated and or until discharge from the eye has cleared.
- ✚ Tuberculosis, until the child's physician or the Public Health Service advises that the child is non-infectious.
- ✚ Impetigo, at the advice of the doctor / management.
- ✚ Strep throat, at the advice of the doctor / management.
- ✚ Head lice, or thread worm, until treated and all eggs removed.
- ✚ Scabies, until after treatment has been completed and at the advice of the doctor / management.
- ✚ Chickenpox, from onset of rash until all the lesions have dried and crusted and at the advice of the doctor / management.
- ✚ Whooping cough, until five days of appropriate antibiotic therapy (the total course of the usual treatment is approx. 14 days.) And at the advice of the doctor / management.
- ✚ Mumps, at the advice of the doctor / management.
- ✚ For some vaccine preventable diseases, there is a requirement to exclude unimmunised children who have had contact with a case of the disease. This applies to Measles, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough, and would be arranged on the advice of the Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Service exclusion guidelines will be followed for any conditions not listed above.

- ✚ Individual Health Plans will be written in consultation with parents for children who suffer from Asthma, Epilepsy or specific allergies, or other medical conditions. These will be situated around the centre with a picture of the child so all are aware of their condition and the action plan response.
- ✚ A child prescribed antibiotics for any illness should not return until at least 24 hours after treatment has started.
- ✚ The Centre records children's immunisation when they enrol and this is regularly updated.

Date November 2013

Reviewed May 2015

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed annually.