

ADMINISTRATION OF FIRST AID POLICY

Under the *Education and Care Services National Regulations* the approved provider must ensure policies and procedures are in place for the administration of first aid (Reg. 168) and take reasonable steps to ensure policies and procedures are followed. First aid can save lives and prevent minor injuries or illnesses from becoming major. The ability to provide prompt basic first aid is particularly important in the context of an early childhood service where educators have a duty of care and obligation to assist children who are injured, become ill, or require support with administration of medication.

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD (NQS)

QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY		
2.1.1	Wellbeing and comfort	Each child's wellbeing and comfort is provided for, including appropriate opportunities to meet each child's needs for sleep, rest and relaxation.
2.1.2	Health practices and procedures	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
2.2	Safety	Each child is protected.
2.2.1	Supervision	At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard.
2.2.2	Incident and emergency management	Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practiced and implemented.

EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL LAW AND REGULATIONS	
Sec.167	Offence relating to protection of children from harm and hazards
12	Meaning of serious incident
85	Incident, injury, trauma and illness policies and procedures
86	Notification to parents of incident, injury, trauma and illness
87	Incident, injury, trauma and illness record
88	Infectious diseases
89	First aid kits
90	Medical conditions policy

92	Medication record
93	Administration of medication
94	Exception to authorisation requirement-anaphylaxis or asthma emergency
97	Emergency and evacuation procedures
101	Conduct a risk assessment for excursions
102C	Conduct a risk assessment for transporting of children by the education and care service
136	First aid qualifications
137	Approval of qualifications
161	Authorisations to be kept in enrolment record
162	Health information to be kept in enrolment record
168 (2)(a)(iv)	Education and care service must have policies and procedures
170	Policies and procedures to be followed
171	Policies and procedures to be kept available
174	Prescribed information to be notified to Regulatory Authority
176	Time to notify certain information to Regulatory Authority
183	Storage of records and other documents

PURPOSE

Medowie Gumnut Preschool has a duty of care to provide and protect the health and safety of children, educators, and visitors of the Service.

This policy aims to support educators to:

- Preserve life
- Ensure the environment is safe and other people are not in danger of becoming ill or injured
- Ensure that ill or injured persons are stabilised and comforted until medical assistance intervenes
- Relieve pain if possible
- Monitor ill or injured persons and promote recovery
- Provide immediate and effective first aid to children or adults
- Apply additional first aid if the condition does not improve

'First aid can reduce the severity of an injury or illness and in extreme cases, could mean the difference between life and death.' (Safe Work Australia).

SCOPE

This policy applies to children, families, educators, staff, approved provider, nominated supervisor, management, students, volunteers and visitors of Medowie Gumnut Preschool

IMPLEMENTATION

First aid is the emergency aid or treatment given to persons suffering illness or injury following an accident and prior to obtaining professional medical services if required. It includes emergency treatment, maintenance of records, dressing of minor injuries, recognition and reporting of health hazards, and participation in safety programs. Legislation that governs the operation of approved children's services is based on the health, safety and welfare of children, and requires that children are protected from hazards and harm.

THE APPROVED PROVIDER/NOMINATED SUPERVISOR/MANAGEMENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- ensuring educators, staff, students, visitors and volunteers have knowledge of and adhere to this policy
- ensuring families are aware of this Administration of First Aid Policy
- taking every reasonable precaution to protect children at Medowie Gumnut preschool from harm and/or hazards that can cause injury ensuring that the following qualified people are in attendance **at all times** the service is providing education and care to children [Reg. 136]
- at least one educator, staff member or nominated supervisor who holds a current ACECQA approved first aid qualifications
- at least one educator, staff member or nominated supervisor of the service who has undertaken current approved anaphylaxis management training
- at least one educator, staff member or nominated supervisor of the service who has undertaken current approved emergency asthma management training

(One staff member may hold one or more of the three qualifications)

- staff maintain current ACECQA approved first aid qualification and ACECQA approved anaphylaxis and asthma management training every 3 years and renew cardio-pulmonary resuscitation every 12 months
- ensuring a risk assessment is conducted prior to an excursion or regular outing, to identify risks to health, safety, or wellbeing and specifying how these risks will be managed and minimised (NB: risk assessment for a regular outing or regular transportation is required at least annually) [Reg. 102B, 102D (4)]
- providing and maintaining an appropriate number of up-to-date, fully equipped first aid kits, that meet Australian Standards [Reg. 89]
- providing and maintaining a transportable first aid kit that can be taken to excursions and other activities [Reg. 89]
- ensuring that first aid training details are recorded and kept up to date on each staff member's record

- ensuring there is an induction process for all new staff, including casual and relief staff, that includes providing information on the location of first aid kits and specific first aid requirements; individual children's allergies and individual children's medical management plans
- ensuring that families/parents are notified when practicable or within 24 hours if their child is involved in an incident, injury, trauma or illness at the Service and that details are recorded on the *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness* Record [Reg. 86, 87]
- ensuring the Regulatory Authority is notified within 24 hours if a child is involved in a serious incident, injury, trauma or illness at the Service [Reg. 12, 176]
- ensuring that staff members are offered support and debriefing subsequent to a serious incident requiring the administration of first aid
- ensuring a resuscitation flow chart is displayed in a prominent position in the indoor and outdoor environments of the Service
- keeping up to date with any changes in procedures for administration of first aid and ensuring that all educators are informed of these changes.
- ensuring parents/guardians provide written consent (via the enrolment record) for service staff to administer first aid
- ensuring parents/guardians provide written consent for the approved provider, nominated supervisor or educator to seek medical treatment for their child by a registered medical practitioner, hospital or ambulance service and if required, transport the child to hospital [Reg. 161(1)(a)]

A NOMINATED SUPERVISOR/ RESPONSIBLE PERSON WILL:

- implement and follow the Administration of First Aid Policy and procedure
- maintain a current ACECQA approved first aid qualification, including approved anaphylaxis and asthma management training every 3 years and renew cardio-pulmonary resuscitation every 12 months
- support staff when dealing with a serious incident and/or trauma
- maintain an appropriate number of up-to-date, fully equipped first aid kits that meet Australian Standards
- maintain a transportable first aid kit/s that can be taken to excursions and other activities
- monitor the contents of all first aid kits and arrange replacement of stock, including when the use-by date has been reached
- dispose of out-of-date materials and supplies appropriately
- ensure safety signs showing the location of first aid kits are clearly displayed
- ensure that all educators approved first aid qualifications, anaphylaxis management training and emergency asthma management training are current and meet the requirements of the National Act and National Regulations and are approved by ACECQA

- provide training for the administration of an auto-injector device annually and document on staff files
- keep up to date with any changes in the procedures for the administration of first aid
- contact families immediately if a child has had a head injury whilst at Medowie Gumnut Preschool
- ensure that appropriate documentation is being recorded by the Nominated Supervisor / Responsible Person regarding incidents, injury, trauma, and illnesses and the administration of first aid
- ensure families are notified of any event requiring first aid administration as soon as practicable but no later than 24 hours after the incident, injury or trauma requiring first aid

Documentation of the following must be recorded, as per Education and Care Services National Regulation 87:

- name and age of the child
- circumstances leading to the incident, injury, trauma, or illness (including any symptoms)
- time and date
- details of action taken by the service including any medication administered, first aid provided or
- medical personnel contacted
- details of any witnesses
- names of any person the service notified or attempted to notify, and the time and date of this
- signature of the person making the entry, and time and date of this.

EDUCATORS WILL:

- implement appropriate first aid procedures, when necessary, by adhering to the Service's *Administration of First Aid Procedure*
 - maintain current ACECQA approved first aid qualification, and qualifications in approved anaphylaxis management and emergency asthma management every 3 years
 - renew cardio-pulmonary resuscitation every 12 months
 - participate in administration of an auto-injector device training at least annually
 - ensure that all children are adequately supervised while providing first aid and comfort for a child involved in an incident or suffering trauma
 - ensure that the details of any incident requiring the administration of first aid are recorded on the *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Record* accurately
 - conduct a risk assessment prior to an excursion, regular outing or when providing regular transportation of children to identify risks to health, safety, or wellbeing and specifying how these risks will be managed and minimised (NB: risk assessment for a regular outing or regular transportation is required at least annually) [Reg. 102B, 102D (4)]

FAMILIES WILL:

- read and comply with the policies and procedures of Medowie Gumnut Preschool
- sign Service records of accidents or injuries that have occurred, acknowledging they have been made aware of the incident and the first aid that treatment that was given to the child
- provide the required information for the Service's medication record
- notify the Service upon enrolment of any specific health care needs of their child- including medical conditions and allergies
- provide the Service with a medical management plan for their child if required and ensure these are kept up-to-date at all times
- provide written consent (via the enrolment record) for service staff to administer first aid
- provide written consent for the approved provider, nominated supervisor or educator to seek medical treatment for their child by a registered medical practitioner, hospital or ambulance service and if required, transport the child to hospital
- be contactable, either directly or through emergency contacts listed on the child's enrolment record
- notify educators of any change in condition of their child's health that may impact the child's care and require the administration of first aid (ACECQA, 2021).

FIRST AID KIT

The approved provider of the Service will ensure that first aid kits are kept in accordance with Education and Care Services National Regulations [Reg. 89].

ALL FIRST AID KITS AT THE SERVICE MUST:

- be suitably equipped
- be suitable for the number of employees and children and sufficient for the immediate treatment of injuries at Medowie Gumnut Preschool be easily accessible to staff and educators
- be constructed of resistant material, be dust proof and of sufficient size to adequately store the required contents
- be capable of being sealed and preferably be fitted with a carrying handle as well as have internal compartments
- contain a list of the contents of the kit
- be regularly checked using the First Aid Kit Checklist to ensure the contents are as listed and have not degraded or expired
- have a white cross on a green background with the words 'First Aid' prominently displayed on the outside
- be easily recognisable
- be easy to access and if applicable, located where there is a risk of injury occurring
- include emergency telephone numbers, and location of the nearest first aid trained educators

- display a photograph of the first aid trained educators, along with contact details to assist in the identification process
- be stocked with precautionary items such as sunscreen and water if using outdoors.
- be taken on excursions and during regular transportation
- be maintained in proper condition and the contents restocked as required.

Our nominated First Aid Officer responsible for maintaining all First Aid kits at the Service is:

FIRST AID OFFICER	
Name	Kiara Tanner
Role	Educator and First Aid Officer
Number of First Aid Kits Responsible for at the Service:	2
Additional First Aid Officer:	All other staff

These individuals are responsible for conducting and maintaining each first aid kit by complying with the First Aid Checklist, certifying each kit has the required quantities, items are within their expiry dates, and sterile products are sealed. This will occur after each use or if unused, at least monthly

Individuals, along with the nominated supervisor will also consider whether the first aid kits and components are appropriate and effective for the Service's hazards and the injuries that have occurred. If the kit requires additional resources, these individuals will advise and follow up with the nominated supervisor.

Medowie Gumnut Preschool will display a well-recognised, standardised first aid sign to assist in easily locating first aid kits. Signage will comply with AS 1319:1994 – Safety Signs for the Occupational Environment.

FIRST AID KIT CHECKLIST

Medowie Gumnut Preschool will use the checklist provided by the *Childcare Centre Desktop*. The checklist will be completed annually to ensure first aid kits are equipped and maintained.

Safe Work Australia's *First Aid in the Workplace Code of Practice* also provides a guide to what to include in a First Aid Kit. (Appendix E- Example of contents)

<https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/model-codes-practice/model-code-practice-first-aid-workplace>

We will determine the need for additional items to those in the checklist, or whether some items are unnecessary, after analysing the number of children at Medowie Gumnut Preschool and what injuries children or adults may incur. We will review our incident, injury, trauma and illness records to assist us in making an informed decision about what to include.

For further advice on first aid in the workplace, refer to the following website for state and territory specifications. <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/safety-topic/managing-health-and-safety/first-aid>

SOURCES

Australian Children’s Education & Care Quality Authority. (2014).

Australian Children’s Education & Care Quality Authority. (2023). Guide to the National Quality Framework.

Australian Children’s Education & Care Quality Authority. (2023). Policy and procedure guidelines- Administration of First Aid Policy Guidelines

Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics. (2016).

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010. (Amended 2023).

Education and Care Services National Regulations. (Amended 2023)

Revised National Quality Standard. (2018).

Safe Work Australia First Aid in the Workplace Code of Practice: First Aid in the Workplace

Western Australian Education and Care Services National Regulations

REVIEW

POLICY REVIEWED BY	SHARON HALES	DIRECTOR	5/2/2024
POLICY REVIEWED	NOVEMBER/MAY 2023	NEXT REVIEW DATE	MAY 2024

<p>MODIFICATIONS</p>	<p>NOVEMBER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regulation amendment re: CPR training to be completed annually inclusion of student and visitors <p>MAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> policy maintenance hyperlinks checked and repaired as required minor formatting edits within text continuous improvement/reflection section added Childcare Centre Desktop Related resources section added link to Western Australian Education and Care Services National Regulations added in 'Sources' 	
POLICY REVIEWED	PREVIOUS MODIFICATIONS	NEXT REVIEW DATE
<p>MAY 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> policy maintenance - no major changes to policy minor formatting edits within text hyperlinks checked and repaired as required 	<p>MAY 2023</p>
<p>OCTOBER 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy reviewed and included suggested guidelines from ACECQA Administration of First Aid Policy (August 2021) Additional legislative requirements added Additional related policies 	<p>MAY 2022</p>
<p>MAY 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> minor edits risk assessment for regular outing added annual training for auto injectors highlighted as best practice (not mandatory) reference to Administration of First Aid 	<p>MAY 2022</p>
<p>MAY 2020</p>	<p>minor changes- rewording of mandatory regulations regarding minimum staffing qualifications minor formatting edits sources checked for currency</p>	<p>MAY 2021</p>
<p>MAY 2019</p>	<p>Sources checked for currency. URLs added. Sources/references alphabetised. Minor formatting for consistency throughout policy. 'Related policies' alphabetised.</p>	<p>MAY 2020</p>

MAY 2018	Updated policy to work in collaboration with Safe Work Australia.	MAY 2019
OCTOBER 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated to meet the National Law and/or National Regulations in respect of a serious incidents and notification purposes. Updated to include revised National Quality Standard 	SEPTEMBER 2018
SEPTEMBER 2017	Minor changes made to policy	SEPTEMBER 2018
SEPTEMBER 2016	New Format created and policy created	OCTOBER 2017