

## **CHILD & STAFF IMMUNISATION POLICY**

### **PURPOSE:**

To ensure that all staff and parents are aware of the importance of child immunization. That this policy support the need and importance for all records of such to remain up to date and that we as advocates for child health ensure that parents and staff remain well informed on any changes regarding immunization that will affect our centre and its stakeholders that may become available to us from the NSW Health Department.

### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

Elder Street Early Childhood Centre's Health Policy has been developed from NSW Health Department Guidelines and these policies will be strictly adhered at all times.

Even though immunisation is not compulsory, it is recommended that children are immunised against the nine preventable diseases. The Australian Standard Vaccination Schedule now requires Parents/Guardians to provide documented evidence of immunisation status of all children enrolling in childcare centres.

Appropriate documentation includes a signed record of immunisation contained in "The Blue Book" or details of the child's immunisations given by General Practitioner, Local Council, and/or Community Health centre using their letterheads.

The recommended immunisation schedule may be accessed at <http://www.immunise.health.gov.au>, or by calling the immunisation info line on 1800 671 811.

Please note: Children's immunisation must be kept up to date by parents according to the national immunisation register in order to be or remain eligible for the payment of Child Care Benefit. It is the responsibility of parents to provide the centre with documented evidence of updated immunisation in order to maintain accurate records of immunisation status for each child.

### **NON IMMUNISED CHILDREN OR NO PROOF OF IMMUNISATION**

The centre will not be held responsible in the event of a non-immunised child being infected with a vaccine preventable infectious illness whilst at the centre. However we will In the event of an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease, notify parents of such an event and also the Director will notify the local Public Health Unit. Upon the direction of the Medical Officer of Health, non-immunised children or those children whose proof of immunisation has not been issued to the centre by parents must be excluded for the incubation period of the disease (see table for exclusion periods). Parents will be reminded of this policy regularly via newsletters and policy review procedures.

Reviewed: 8 July 2005

Reviewed: 10 May 2006 by M Duffy-Fagan

Source: NSW Health Department Guidelines

[www.immunise.health.gov.au](http://www.immunise.health.gov.au)

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