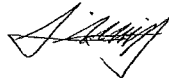
 YMCA We build strong PEOPLE strong FAMILIES strong COMMUNITIES	Management Area: CHILDRENS SERVICES	Pages: [04] Version No: [02] Date: [01/12/2009]
	Sub section (if applicable):	Signed: 
Policy Title: ILLNESS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES		Author: CHILDCARE TASKFORCE

1. Scope

- 1.1. Staff, management, families & children

2. Policy Statement

The YMCA aims to provide a safe and hygienic environment that will promote the health of the children. As the care needs of a sick child cannot be met without dramatically reducing the general level of supervision of the other children or risking other children's health, parents will be asked not to bring sick children to the centre and to collect children who are unwell.

All care and consideration will be given to the child who becomes ill while at the centre. Children with infectious diseases will be excluded from the centre for the period recommended by the Department of Health.

The Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator or Manager reserves the right to refuse entry of a sick child to protect the health of all children and staff at the centre. This also includes refusing entry to the child who, due to illness, is unable to cope with the daily routine.

If the Coordinator or Manager considers any child too sick to remain at the centre, parents must make arrangements for the child to be collected as soon as possible.

3. Related Policies & Procedures/Guidance Notes


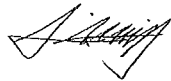
- 3.1. Duty of Care Policy
- 3.2. Daily Routines Policy
- 3.3. Illness and Infectious Diseases Policy
- 3.4. Immunisation Policy
- 3.5. Service Access Policy

4. Responsibilities & Delegations

- 4.1. The Childcare Taskforce is responsible for the review of this policy.
- 4.2. The Childcare staff & management are responsible for the implementation of this policy.
- 4.3. The families and children are responsible for the support of this policy.

5. Considerations

- 5.1. National Standards
- 5.2. Q&A Principles
- 5.3. Department of Health Guidelines

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5.4. Department of Education Guidelines

6. Records Maintenance

6.1. This policy is to be reviewed annually.

PROCEDURES

A Child or Adult will be considered sick if he/she:

- Sleeps at unusual times, is lethargic.
- Has a fever over 38 degrees.
- Is crying constantly from discomfort.
- Vomits or has diarrhoea.
- Is in need of constant one to one care.
- Has an infectious disease.

If a child is unwell at home parents will be asked not to bring the child to the centre.

If a staff member is unwell they should not report for work. Staff should contact the centre as soon as possible to inform them that they are unable to work.

If a child becomes ill or develops symptoms at the centre the parents will be contacted to take the child home.

If a staff member becomes ill or develops symptoms at the centre they can return home if able to organise for someone to take them home.


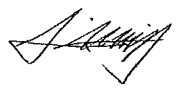
The Coordinator will organise a suitable replacement as soon as possible.

The child who is ill will be comforted, cared for and placed in a quiet isolated area with adult supervision until the child's parent or other authorised adult takes them home.

During a fever other methods will be employed to bring the child's temperature down until the parents arrive or help is sought. Such methods include: excess clothes removed as required, clear fluids given, tepid sponges administered.

If a child's temperature is very high, cannot be brought down and parents cannot be contacted and the situation becomes serious, the child will be taken to the doctor or an ambulance called.

Staff are asked to take special note of children who have allergies listed on enrolment forms. Consideration of these allergies must be given when programming. An allergy list should be displayed confidentially at each centre.

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INFECTIOUS DISEASES

- Children and staff will be excluded from the centre if they are ill with any contagious illness. This includes diarrhoea and conjunctivitis.
- The period of exclusion will be based on the recommendations outlined by the Department of Health.
- The decision to exclude or re-admit a child or staff member will be the responsibility of the Coordinator based on the child's symptoms, medical opinion and Department of Health guidelines for children who have an infectious disease or who have been exposed to an infectious disease.
- The Coordinator or staff members have the right to refuse access if concerned about the child's health.
- Children with diarrhoea will be excluded for 24 hours after the symptoms have disappeared or after a normal stool.
- A doctor's clearance certificate will be required for all infectious diseases such as Measles, Mumps Diphtheria, and hepatitis A, Polio, Tuberculosis, Typhoid and Paratyphoid before returning to the centre.
- Parents will be informed about the illness and infectious diseases policy on enrolment.
- A regularly updated copy of the Department of Health Guidelines on infectious diseases will be kept attached to the illness and infectious disease policy for reference by staff, management and made available to parents on request.
- The Coordinator will follow the recommendations as outlined in the Health Department Document.
- Parents will be informed about the occurrence of an infectious disease in the centre ensuring that the individual rights of staff or children are not infringed upon.
- All staff will ensure proper hygiene practices are carried out as outlined in the Hygiene Policy.

Under the provisions of the Public Health and Regulations Act, doctors, hospital chief executives (or general managers), pathology laboratories, directors of childcare centres and school principals are required to notify the following diseases:


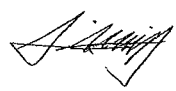
Diphtheria	Measles
Mumps	Pertussis (Whooping Cough)
Poliomyelitis	Rubella (German measles)
Tetanus	

Notification requested by phone, if possible.

Notification Mechanisms

Infectious diseases:

- Infectious diseases should be directed to the local Public Health Unit, and should be notified within 24 hours of diagnosis.
- All infectious diseases notification forms are available from Public Health

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7. Version History

Version	Description of changes	Author	Effective Date
2	Review and update. New format	M. Rupnik	December 2009

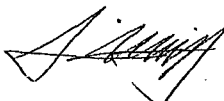
I endorse the Illness and Infectious Diseases Policy.

Name: *Maryann Rupnik*
Childrens Services Program Manager

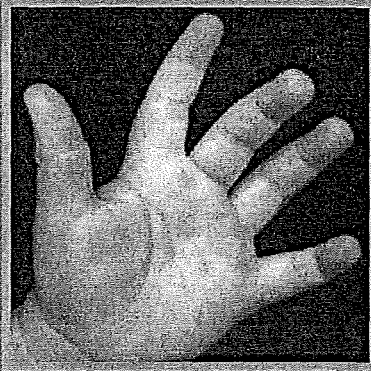
Signature: 

Date: 7 December 2009

Name: *Liam Whitley*
Group Manager

Signature: 

Date: 7 December 2009



Handwashing

HOW TO WASH HANDS

- Use liquid soap and running water
- Wash your hands thoroughly while counting slowly from 1 to 10
- Rinse your hands while slowly counting from 1 to 10
- Turn off the tap with paper towel
- Dry hands well with new paper towel

WHEN TO WASH HANDS

- On arrival (this reduces new germs being introduced to the centre)
- Before handling food, including a baby's bottle
- Before eating
- Before and after changing a nappy
- After removing gloves
- After going to the toilet
- After cleaning up blood, faeces or vomit
- After wiping a nose
- Before giving medication
- After handling garbage
- After playing outside
- Before going home (this prevents taking germs home)

WASHING AND RINSING YOUR HANDS SHOULD TAKE ABOUT AS LONG AS SINGING 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY' TWICE.



Australian Government

National Health and
Medical Research Council

Recommended minimum exclusion periods for infectious conditions for schools, pre-schools and child care centres

National Health and Medical Research Council – December 2005



Australian Government
National Health and
Medical Research Council

Condition	Exclusion of Case	Exclusion of Contacts
Amoebiasis (Entamoeba histolytica)	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Campylobacter	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Candidiasis	See 'Thrush'	
Chickenpox (Varicella)	Exclude until all blisters have dried. This is usually at least 5 days after the rash first appeared in unimmunised children and less in immunised children.	Any child with an immune deficiency (for example, leukaemia) or receiving chemotherapy should be excluded for their own protection. Otherwise, not excluded.
CMV (Cytomegalovirus infection)	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Conjunctivitis	Exclude until the discharge from the eyes has stopped unless doctor has diagnosed a non-infectious conjunctivitis	Not excluded
Cryptosporidium infection	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Diarrhoea (No organism identified)	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Diphtheria	Exclude until medical certificate of recovery is received following at least 2 negative throat swabs, the first swab not less than 24 hours after finishing a course of antibiotics followed by another swab 48 hours later.	Exclude contacts that live in the same house until cleared to return by an appropriate health authority.
German measles	See 'Rubella'	
Giardiasis	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Glandular fever (Mononucleosis, EBV infection)	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Hand, foot and mouth disease	Exclude until all blisters have dried.	Not excluded
Haemophilus influenzae type b (HIB)	Exclude until the person has received appropriate antibiotic treatment for at least 4 days.	Not excluded
Head lice (Pediculosis)	Exclusion is NOT necessary if effective treatment is commenced prior to the next day at child care (ie the child doesn't need to be sent home immediately if head lice are detected).	Not excluded
Hepatitis A	Exclude until a medical certificate of recovery is received, but not before seven days after the onset of jaundice.	Not excluded
Hepatitis B	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Hepatitis C	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Herpes simplex (cold sores, fever blisters)	Exclusion is not necessary if the person is developmentally capable of maintaining hygiene practices to minimise the risk of transmission. If the person is unable to comply with these practices they should be excluded until the sores are dry. Sores should be covered by a dressing where possible.	Not excluded
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV/AIDS)	Exclusion is NOT necessary. If the person is severely immunocompromised, they will be vulnerable to other people's illnesses.	Not excluded
Hydatid disease	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Impetigo (school sores)	Exclude until appropriate antibiotic treatment has commenced. Any sores on exposed skin should be covered with a watertight dressing.	Not excluded
Influenza and influenza-like illnesses	Exclude until well	Not excluded
Legionnaires' disease	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Leprosy	Exclude until approval to return has been given by an appropriate health authority	Not excluded
Measles	Exclude for 4 days after the onset of the rash	Immunised and immune contacts are not excluded. Non-immunised contacts of a case are to be excluded from child care until 14 days after the first day of appearance of rash in the last case, unless immunised within 72 hours of first contact during the infectious period with the first case. All immunocompromised children should be excluded until 14 days after the first day of appearance of rash in the last case.
Meningitis (bacterial)	Exclude until well and has received appropriate antibiotics	Not excluded
Meningitis (viral)	Exclude until well	Not excluded
Meningococcal infection	Exclude until appropriate antibiotic treatment has been completed	Not excluded

Condition	Exclusion of Case	Exclusion of Contacts
Molluscum contagiosum	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Mumps	Exclude for nine days after onset of swelling	Not excluded
Norovirus	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion or vomiting for 48 hours	Not excluded
Parvovirus infection (fifth disease, erythema infectiosum, slapped cheek syndrome)	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Pertussis	See 'Whooping Cough'	
Respiratory syncytial virus	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Ringworm/tinea	Exclude until the day after appropriate antifungal treatment has commenced	Not excluded
Roseola	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Ross River virus	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Rotavirus infection	Children are to be excluded from the centre until there has not been a loose bowel motion or vomiting for 24 hours	Not excluded
Rubella (German measles)	Exclude until fully recovered or for at least four days after the onset of the rash	Not excluded
Salmonella infection	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Scarlet fever	Exclude until the day after appropriate treatment has commenced	Not excluded
Scarlet fever	See 'Streptococcal sore throat'	
School sores	See 'Impetigo'	
Shigella infection	Exclude until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours	Not excluded
Streptococcal sore throat (including scarlet fever)	Exclude until the person has received antibiotic treatment for at least 24 hours and feels well	Not excluded
Thrush (candidiasis)	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Toxoplasmosis	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Tuberculosis (TB)	Exclude until medical certificate is produced from an appropriate health authority	Not excluded
Typhoid, Paratyphoid	Exclude until medical certificate is produced from appropriate health authority	Not excluded unless considered necessary by public health authorities
Varicella	See 'Chickenpox'	
Viral gastroenteritis (viral diarrhoea)	Children are to be excluded from the centre until there has not been a loose bowel motion or vomiting for 24 hours	Not excluded
Warts	Exclusion is NOT necessary	Not excluded
Whooping cough (pertussis)	Exclude until five days after starting appropriate antibiotic treatment or for 21 days from the onset of coughing	Contacts that live in the same house as the case and have received less than three doses of pertussis vaccine are to be excluded from the centre until they have had 5 days of an appropriate course of antibiotics. If antibiotics have not been taken, these contacts must be excluded for 21 days after their last exposure to the case while the person was infectious.
Worms	Exclusion not necessary if treatment has occurred	Not excluded

