

HIV AIDS Policy

NQS

QA2	2.1	Each child's health is promoted.
	2.1.1	Each child's health needs are supported.
	2.1.3	Effective hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
	2.1.4	Steps are taken to control the spread of infectious diseases and to manage injuries and illness, in accordance with recognised guidelines.

National Regulations

Regs	77	Health, hygiene and safe food practices
	88	Infectious diseases
	90	Medical conditions policy

Aim

The service aims to effectively care for any child that may be infected with Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection, AIDS Virus and also minimise the risk of exposure to HIV through effective hygiene practices.

Related Policies

Enrolment Policy
 Food Nutrition and Beverage Policy
 Health, Hygiene and Safe Food Policy
 Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy
 Infectious Diseases Policy
 Medical Conditions Policy
 Privacy and Confidentiality Policy

Who is affected by this policy?

Child

Educators
Families
Community
Visitors
Management

Implementation

It is the Nominated Supervisor's responsibility to educate and inform educators and parents about HIV/AIDS. One of the main problems surrounding HIV/AIDS is a lack of understanding which leads to an unfounded fear to the virus.

The following provides basic information on HIV/AIDS -

- Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a medical condition caused by the Human Immuno Deficiency Virus (HIV) which can damage a body's immune system.
- HIV is transmitted through the exchange of bodily fluid and is primarily passed on through sexual contact.
- The HIV virus can be transmitted through blood products. However, the risk of contracting AIDS from a blood transfusion is minimal and said to be about one in 1,000,000.
- There is no evidence of the spread of the virus to children through other means at this time.

The confidentiality of medical information must be adhered to regarding an infected child.

There is no obligation, legal or otherwise for anyone to inform an employer, service provider, or service of their own or their child's HIV/AIDS, hepatitis C or other blood borne virus status, consequently:

- Such information must not be disclosed without informed consent of the individual [or guardian for a person under the age of 18 years]
- The only reason a parent would inform the teacher of the child's blood-borne disease status would be for the benefit of the child.
- Any employee or Committee member, in receipt of verbal or written information relating to the HIV/AIDS or blood borne disease status and condition of any child or staff member, must take all reasonable precautions to protect the child or staff member's privacy.
- All such information must be kept securely within the service; access to this information must only be by the person who has been informed. Information relating to the blood borne status will be destroyed once the person leaves the employment of, or ceases to attend, the service.
- No routine or mandatory blood borne disease testing may be carried out on service users or staff.

- No testing may be carried out without the informed consent of the individual and provision of pre and post-test counselling, by an accredited counsellor or qualified medical practitioner. [Contacts for accredited counsellors are listed under Resources and Support.]

Children with the HIV virus will be accepted into the service.

Educators will carry out routine hygiene precautions to Australian standards at all times to prevent the spread of any infections following the service's relevant policies and procedures.

Educators will exercise care in regards to the exposure of bodily fluids and blood and the service's hygiene practices will be used to prevent the spread of infection. Similarly, if the need arises to perform CPR on a child infected with HIV a disposable mouth to mouth mask will be used.

If there is an outbreak of an infectious disease at the service, children who are infected with HIV will be assessed by their Doctor before they are excluded from the service. Children who have abrasions or open wounds will cover them while at the service. If these abrasions cannot be covered for any reason unfortunately the child will have to be excluded from the service until the wound has healed or can be covered.

Educators who have been infected by HIV are not obliged to inform their employer but are expected to act in a safe and responsible manner at all times to minimise the risk of infection.

No child, educator, parent or other visitor to the service will be denied First Aid at any time.

Sources

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

My Time, Our Place Framework for School Age Care

National Quality Standard

Disability Discrimination Act 1992 Cwth

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009

Equal Opportunity Act 1995 Vic

National Health and Medical Research Council. (2005). Staying Healthy in Child Care – Preventing infectious diseases in child care

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually by the Out of School Hours Care subcommittee of School Council.

<u>Ratification Date</u> November 2019	<u>Review Date</u> Year 2019	<u>Version Number</u> 3	<u>Date Produced</u> October 2015
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Appendix 1: Step by Step Procedure for Infection Control Relating to Blood- Borne Viruses

Blood spills

Equipment and procedures for managing blood spills and providing first aid for patients who are bleeding are detailed below:

Anyone working with children, who may need to respond to an incident involving blood, needs to cover cuts, sores or abrasions they may have on their hands and arms with waterproof dressings, while at the service.

Cleaning and removal of blood spills

Equipment

Disposable gloves

Disposable plastic bags

Warm water and detergent

Disposable towels

Bleach. Strength should be 10,000 parts per million, approximately to one quarter of a cup of household bleach to one cup of water. Ensure that bleach has not passed its use by date and that it is mixed fresh on each occasion.

Procedure

- Put on disposable gloves.
- Saturate disposable towel in bleach solution.
- Cover the spill with the towel.
- Leave the towel in place for 10 minutes.
- Place towel in disposable plastic bag.
- Wash area with warm water and detergent.
- Place gloves into disposable plastic bag.

- Seal bag and dispose of it appropriately taking into consideration health and safety issues.
- Wash hands in warm soapy water.
- Soak any utensils used in bleach solution for 30 minutes, then wash in warm to hot soapy water and rinse.

Care needs to be taken to ensure that children do not have access to the bleach saturated towel.

Providing first aid for children who are bleeding

Equipment

Antiseptic
Disposable plastic bags
Disposable gloves
Waterproof dressings
Disposable towels
Warm water and detergent

Procedure

- Adult treating child are to cover any uncovered cuts, sores or abrasions on arms and hands with waterproof dressings.
- Put on disposable gloves.
- Wash wound under warm running water and apply antiseptic to wound.
- Apply waterproof dressing to the wound if necessary.
- Remove gloves and place in disposable plastic bag, tie securely.
- Seal bag and dispose of it appropriately taking into consideration health and safety issues.
- Wash hands in warm soapy water.
- Contaminated clothing or linen should be removed and stored in leak-proof disposable plastic bags until they can be washed as follows using gloves:
 - Rinse in cold water.
 - Soak in 1:10 bleach solution (1 Part bleach 10 parts water) for 30 minutes, then rinse off bleach.

- After soaking, wash clothes and sick room linen separately from other laundry, at a high temperature on a long cycle.

Safe disposal of discarded needles/syringes

Equipment and procedures for the safe disposal of discarded needles and syringes are detailed below:

Equipment

Disposable gloves.

Long handled tongs.

Disposable plastic bags.

'Sharps' syringe disposal container or plastic container with a screw-top lid.

Procedure:

- Put on disposable gloves.
- Do not try to recap the needle.
- Place the disposal container on the ground next to the syringe.
- Pick up the syringe as far from the needle end as possible, using tongs if not easily accessible.
- Place the syringe, needle point down, in the disposal container and screw the lid back on firmly.
- Repeat this procedure to pick up all syringes and/or unattached needles.
- Remove gloves and place in disposable plastic bag.
- Seal and dispose of the plastic bag.
- If tongs are used, soak in bleach solution for 30 minutes, then wash in hot soapy water and rinse.
- Wash hands in warm, soapy water.

Under no circumstances should work experience students or children be asked or encouraged to pick up needles/syringes.

Syringe disposal containers or syringes must not be put in normal waste disposal bins.

Syringe disposal containers may be disposed of by:

- Telephoning the Disposal Help Line on 1800 552355 for the location of the nearest needle exchange outlet or public disposal bin.
- Contacting the local hospital.
- Contacting the Risk Reduction Unit at the Department of Education & Training on 03 9637 4000.
- Contacting the environmental officer (health surveyor) at the local municipal/council offices; also for any further concerns about syringe disposal.

Needle stick injuries

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The following procedures should be observed in case of needle stick injury:

- Flush the affected part with running water and detergent.
- Wash in warm, soapy water.
- Dry area, apply antiseptic to the wound and cover with a waterproof dressing if necessary.
- Report the injury to the Nominated Supervisor/Provider.
- Record the injury on Edusafe
- See a doctor as soon as possible and report the circumstances of the injury.

This procedure is based on advice provided by the Department of Education, Employment and Training and the Department of Education & Training.

Appendix 2: Relevant Publications and Training Providers

Publications

Department of Human Services

Health Protection Section **(03) 9637 4184**, GPO Box 1670N Melbourne 3000

- *AIDS Your Questions Answered*
- *Public Health – Hepatitis A*
- *Hepatitis B – the facts*
- *Hepatitis C – the facts*

Youth Family and Community Services

- *DHS Children’s Services Licensing Operational Guide* (Chapter 4 Health and Welfare of Children)

Government Info Shop (03) 9670 4224

(This is the Victorian outlet for AUSINFO)

190 Queen Street Melbourne.

- *HIV & Hepatitis B in the Workplace*

Information Victoria 1300 366356

356 Collins Street Melbourne.

- *Health (General Amendment) Act 1988.*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 1995.*
- *Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Act 1985.*

Equal Opportunity Commission Victoria (03) 9281 7111 1800 134142

380 Lonsdale Street Melbourne.

- *HIV, AIDS & Hepatitis C Discrimination*
- *Discrimination against people living with HIV or AIDS*
- *Hepatitis C Discrimination.*

Lady Gowrie Child Centre (03) 9347 6388

36 Newry Street North Carlton 3054

- *Staying Healthy in Child Care*
- *HIV/AIDS and Child Care*
- *Managing the Risks in Children's Services.*

Community Child Care Co Op Ltd (NSW) (02) 9557 5599

Locked Bag 19 Newtown 2042

- *HIV/AIDS and Child Care*

AECA -Victorian Branch (03) 9427 8474

9-11 Stewart Street Richmond 3121

- *Guidelines for Prevention and Control of Infection in Child Care Settings*

Training for Staff

Red Cross 1800 811 700

171 City Road South Bank

Professional Learning held across Victoria

- *First Aid Course level 2*
- *Essential First Aid*

St John's Ambulance 13 1394

98 York St. South Melbourne. (Headquarters)

Professional Learning held across Victoria



- Emergency First Aid, level 2
- Basic Life Support.

Accredited Counsellors

Contact **Coordinator, HIV Service (03) 9342 8834**

Victorian Infectious Diseases Service

Royal Melbourne Hospital

Gratton Street Parkville

Postal Address: VIDS, 9 North C/- PO RMH 3050

Victorian AIDS Council 1800 134840

6 Claremont Street South Yarra 3141