

Evidence of link to Regulations (ECSNR):

Part 4.2 Div2
R88 – 1, 2
Part 4.7. Div1. Sub div. 1
R162 – (f)

Evidence of link to NQS:

QA2, St2.1, E2.1.4

Version	Date	Author	Change Description
1.4	August 2018	Sacha Hunter	Policy updated to reflect The Public Health Act Amendment (review) 2017

Policy Objective

The objective of this policy is to ensure compliance with: -

- The Education and Care Services National Regulations, 2011, Part 4.2 Div. 2 and Part 4.7 Div. 1
- The Public Health Act Amendment (review) 2017

These set out the requirements for Health and Safety policies and practices in relation to immunisation status and the required records for children to be enrolled in New South Wales Early Childhood Education and Care Services

Rationale

The incidence of many diseases has reduced greatly due to immunisation.

From 1 January 2018 the Australian Government’s amendment to The Public Health Act came into effect to strengthen vaccination enrolment requirements in child care (also known as early childhood education and care).

From 1 January 2018 children who are unvaccinated due to their parent’s conscientious objection can no longer be enrolled in child care.

Bright Horizons Australia Childcare Pty Ltd supports this legislation and is committed to the health and well-being of our staff, children and families. We encourage everyone to make sure their vaccinations are up to date.

Relevant Legislation

- *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: Part 4.2 Div. 2 and Part 4.7 Div. 1.*
- *National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care*
- *The Public Health Act 2010 - Amendment (Jan 2018)*

Strategies and Practices

- Families will be required to provide a copy of their child’s Immunisation History Statement from the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) on enrolment. Under the legislation, no child can commence care in our centre unless this Immunisation History Statement has been provided.
- From 1 January 2018, parents must provide a copy of one or more of the following documents to enrol in a child care centre:
 - An AIR Immunisation History Statement which shows that the child is up to date with their scheduled vaccinations *or*
 - An AIR Immunisation History Form on which the immunisation provider has certified that the child is on a recognised catch-up schedule (temporary for 6 months only) *or*
 - An AIR Immunisation Medical Exemption Form which has been certified by a GP.

No other form of documentation is acceptable (i.e. the Interim Vaccination Objection Form or Blue Book).

- Parents who do not provide the required documents cannot enrol their child in our child care facility.
- The documents must be stored in a secure location for 3 years, unless a child transfers to another child care centre.
- Families will be required to provide an updated copy of their child’s Immunisation History Statement following each immunisation.
- Families can obtain a copy of their child’s Immunisation History Statement at any time by contacting Medicare:
 - Using their Medicare online account through MyGov
 - Using the Medicare Express Plus App
 - Calling the AIR General Enquiries Line 1800 653 809
- If an outbreak of a disease that is preventable by immunisation occurs at the service, un-immunised children, who are on a recognised catch-up schedule or have a registered medical exemption will be excluded for the incubation time listed in the Infectious Diseases Exclusion Table. This will include children who appear well during the outbreak period.
- Families and Team Members will be notified of an outbreak of an infectious disease via written notices.
- The service will provide families with information about immunisation schedules via pamphlets, notice boards and newsletters. Information will be provided in multiple languages when available.

- Children and Team Members who are not fully vaccinated will be excluded from the service if an excludable infectious illness or disease has been confirmed at the service.
- Team Members will provide details of immunisation status upon commencement of employment, which will be kept in the Team Members' confidential file.
- Team Members will be encouraged to keep up to date with their recommended vaccinations as per the current immunisation schedule.
- Team Members will receive information at orientation in relation to immunisation and infectious diseases as well as having regular access to updated information in the form of a Team Member's resource folder or display in the staff room.

Associated Documents

- *Infectious Diseases Policy*
- *Infectious Diseases of Childhood Fact sheet*
- *NSW Immunisation Schedule*

References

- *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011*
- *National Quality Standards for Education and Care Services*
- *National Immunisation Program Schedule*
- *Vaccination: Questions and Answers for Child Care Centres – NSW Health*
- www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/pages/childcare

Resources

- *The Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority:*
<http://www.acecqa.gov.au/>
- *Public Health Amendment (Review) Act 2017*

Notes

Information relating to this policy is communicated throughout the Service using a variety of the following:

Newsletters, emails, parent and team handbooks, team meetings and memos, planned experiences for the children, notice boards and posters, pamphlets and information sheets in the foyer, role modelling and signs displayed around the classrooms and Service.

Policy Written by:
Alison Bayliss

Date: August 2012



Immunisation Policy – New South Wales

QA2 –
P20

Version 1.2	August 2012	Update to reflect
Version 1.3	December 2015	Change Description: Update to reflect 'No Jab, No Play' legislation in New South Wales
Version 1.4	Approved Date: August 2018	Policy updated to reflect The Public Health Amendment (Review) Act 2017 Next review date: August 2019

Team Members Sign:

NSW Immunisation Schedule

from 1 July 2018



AGE	DISEASE	VACCINE
CHILDHOOD VACCINES		
Birth	Hepatitis B	H-B-VAX II OR ENGERIX B
6 weeks	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b, hepatitis B, polio	INFANRIX HEXA
	Pneumococcal	PREVENAR 13
	Rotavirus	ROTARIX
4 months	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b, hepatitis B, polio	INFANRIX HEXA
	Pneumococcal	PREVENAR 13
	Rotavirus	ROTARIX
6 months [†]	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b, hepatitis B, polio	INFANRIX HEXA
12 months	Meningococcal ACWY	NIMENRIX
	Pneumococcal	PREVENAR 13
	Measles, mumps, rubella	MMR II OR PRIORIX
18 months	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis	INFANRIX OR TRIPACEL
	Measles, mumps, rubella, varicella	PRIORIX TETRA OR PROQUAD
	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b	ACT-HIB
4 years	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio	INFANRIX-IPV OR QUADRACEL
ADOLESCENT VACCINES - SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM		
Year 7	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis	BOOSTRIX
	Human papillomavirus (2 doses)	GARDASIL 9
Years 10 - 11 (In 2018)	Meningococcal ACWY	MENACTRA
ADULT VACCINES		
Pregnant women	Influenza (Annually-any trimester)	INFLUENZA
	Pertussis (Third trimester, ideally 28-32 weeks)	BOOSTRIX OR ADACEL
65 years and over	Influenza (Annually)	FLUAD OR FLUZONE HIGH DOSE
	Pneumococcal (One dose)*	PNEUMOVAX 23
70 years (Catch-up for 71-79 years until 31 October 2021)	Zoster	ZOSTAVAX
AT RISK GROUPS		
6 months and over with medical risk conditions [†]		INFLUENZA
All children 6 months to < 5 years (In 2018)	Influenza (annual)	
Aboriginal people 15 years and over		
Aboriginal people 15-49 years with medical risk factors		
Aboriginal people 50 years and over	Pneumococcal*	PNEUMOVAX 23
65 years and over		

[†] Refer to the current online edition of The Australian Immunisation Handbook for all medical risk factors and conditions

* Refer to the current edition of The Australian Immunisation Handbook for timing of doses

[‡] at risk children require an additional dose of pneumococcal (Prevenar 13)