

Relevant Legislation
Education and Care Services National Regulations
85 Incident, injury, trauma and illness policies and procedures
88 Infectious diseases
162 Health information to be kept in enrolment record

National Quality Standards		
Quality Area 2: Children’s health and safety		
2.1.2	Health practices and procedures	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
2.2.2	Incident and emergency management	Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented.

Policy Objective

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

- The Education and Care Services National Regulations, 2011 (Revised 2018) and the Education and Care Services National Quality Standards (Revised 2018).
- The Queensland Vaccination Legislation
- The Australian Governments No Jab No Play Legislation

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 Queensland Early Childhood Education and Care Services

Rationale

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

From 1 January 2016 a Queensland law relating to childhood immunisation came into effect. This law means Bright Horizons Australia Childcare Pty Ltd can cancel, refuse or place conditions on enrolment or attendance of children whose immunisations are not up to date.

From 1 January 2016 the Australian Government’s ‘No Jab No Play’ law came into effect. This law means that children whose immunisation status is not up to date and do not have an approved medical exemption will no longer be eligible to receive the Child Care Rebate.

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.

Practices

- From 1 January 2016 Bright Horizons Australia Childcare Pty Ltd can cancel, refuse or place conditions on enrolment or attendance of children whose immunisations are not up to date
- Parents/Guardians will be required to provide a copy of their child’s Immunisation History Statement from the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR) on enrolment. Under the legislation, no child can commence care in our service’s unless an Immunisation History has been provided.

- Parents/Guardians 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

Procedures

Service Manager/Nominated Supervisor:

- If an outbreak of a disease that is preventable by immunisation occurs at the service, un-immunised children, children who are on a recognised catch-up schedule, or who have a registered medical exemption will be excluded from the service for the incubation time listed in the Infectious Diseases Exclusion Table. This will include even those children who appear well during the outbreak period, and fees must continue to be paid as per normal during this time of exclusion.
- Parents/Guardians will be notified of an outbreak of an infectious disease verbally and via written notices.
- The Service will provide parents/guardians with information about immunisation schedules via pamphlets, noticeboards and newsletters. Information will be provided in multiple languages when available.

Employees:

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

Parents/Guardians:

- Parents/Guardians will be required to provide an up-to-date copy of their child's Immunisation History Statement following each immunisation.
- Conscientious objection has been removed as a reason for a vaccination exemption. Under the Australian Governments No Jab No Play, initiative children attending our services under a 'conscientious objection' will no longer be eligible for the Child Care Rebate and therefore will

be required to pay the full fee. Under the Queensland law attendance of these children is at our discretion.

- If an outbreak of a disease that is preventable by immunisation occurs at the service, unimmunised children, children who are on a recognised catch-up schedule, or who have a registered medical exemption will be excluded from the service for the incubation time listed in the Infectious Diseases Exclusion Table. This will include even those children who appear well during the outbreak period, and fees must continue to be paid as per normal during this time of exclusion.
- Parents/Guardians will be notified of an outbreak of an infectious disease verbally and via written notices.

Associated Documents

- Infectious Diseases Policy
- Immunisation Schedule
- Immunisation History Statement

References

Australian Government 'No Jab No Play' Legislation
 Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011 (Revised 2018)
 National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care
 National Quality Standards for Education and Care Services (Revised 2018)
 National Immunisation Program Schedule
 Queensland Public Health Act
 Queensland Vaccination Legislation

Resources

The Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority: <http://www.acecqa.gov.au/>
 Queensland Vaccination Legislation – A Handbook for Early Childhood Education and Care Services
 1 January 2016

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: Lauren McMahon & Tamir Tukino	Version 1.4	Date: June 2021
Approved by: General Manager	Approved Date: June 2021	Next review date: March 2022

Immunisation Schedule Queensland

July 2020



CHILDREN

STOP

Before vaccinating:

- ALWAYS review the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) to check the patient's previous immunisation history
- Check the online Australian Immunisation Handbook (the Handbook) or download the Handbook app for information about catch-up vaccination, timing of vaccination for special risk groups at immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/
- Check the correct vaccine dose number has been recorded and report all vaccinations to AIR as soon as possible.

LEGEND

R Reconstitute

IM Intramuscular

SC Subcutaneous

AL Anterolateral

AGE	DISEASE	VACCINE BRAND	ALL CHILDREN (incl. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and Children with medical risk factors)	Additional vaccines for:		METHOD & SITE	IMPORTANT NOTES
				Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Children born with medical risk factors		
<p>IMPORTANT: Children diagnosed with medical risk factors for invasive meningococcal disease are funded to receive multiple doses of Meningococcal ACWY (Nimenrix) and Meningococcal B (Bexsero) vaccine. The number and timing of doses is dependent on the age at diagnosis. Refer to the Meningococcal chapter of the Handbook for number and timing of doses.</p>							
Birth	Hepatitis B	H-B-VaxII paediatric OR Engerix B paediatric	●			IM / AL thigh	● Give within 24 hours of birth. Can be given up to 7 days after birth
	Tuberculosis	BCG R		▲		Intradermal / Deltoid	▲ Aged <5 years living in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. For further information regarding eligibility search 'BCG vaccination' on the Queensland Health website
2 months (can be given from 6 weeks) AND 4 months	DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib	Infanrix Hexa R	●			IM / AL thigh	
	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13	●			IM / AL thigh	
	Rotavirus	Rotarix	●			Oral / By mouth	● First dose must be given <15 weeks of age. Second dose must be given <25 weeks of age. Check Rotarix wheel for timing of vaccination
	Meningococcal B	Bexsero		▲		IM / AL thigh	
6 months	DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib	Infanrix Hexa R	●			IM / AL thigh	
	Meningococcal B	Bexsero		▲		IM / AL thigh	▲ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with medical risk factors for IMD (see Handbook)
	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13		▲	◆	IM / AL thigh	◆ Medical risk factors for invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD) (see Handbook)
12 months	Measles-mumps-rubella	Priorix R OR MMRII R	●			IM or SC / Deltoid	
	Meningococcal ACWY	Nimenrix R	●			IM / Deltoid	
	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13	●			IM / Deltoid	◆ Children diagnosed with medical risk factors for IPD at >12 months refer to the Adolescents & Adults schedule for number and timing of doses
	Meningococcal B	Bexsero		▲		IM / Deltoid	
	Hepatitis B	H-B-VaxII paediatric OR Engerix B paediatric			◆	IM / Deltoid	◆ Premature baby <32 weeks gestation or <2000g birthweight only
18 months	Measles-mumps-rubella-varicella	Priorix Tetra R OR Proquad R	●			IM or SC / Deltoid	
	Haemophilus influenzae type b	Act-HIB R	●			IM or SC / Deltoid	
	DTPa	Infanrix OR Tripacel	●			IM / Deltoid	
	Hepatitis A	Vaqta paediatric		▲		IM / Deltoid	
4 years	DTPa-IPV	Infanrix IPV OR Quadracel	●			IM / Deltoid	
	Hepatitis A	Vaqta paediatric		▲		IM / Deltoid	
	Pneumococcal	Pneumovax 23		▲	◆	IM or SC / Deltoid	◆ Medical risk factors for IPD (see Handbook) ▲ Dose at 4 years of age with additional dose at least 5 years later

