



Child Health Policy



Rationale

Hopscotch will provide an environment for children where their health and well-being is protected and nurtured and they are kept safe from harm. We will minimise the risk of spread of infectious diseases by strictly following our procedures below. Exclusion is at the discretion of a Supervisor or the Licensee.

Te Whāriki

Strand - Well Being

Children experience an environment where their health is promoted.

Procedures

1. Hopscotch will take all reasonable steps to ensure that any child suffering from any infectious disease listed in the Second Schedule of the Health (Infectious and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations 1966 is excluded from the centre; and Regulation 14 of those regulations, with necessary modifications. See also the attached Guidelines for the control of diarrhoea and vomiting outbreaks in early learning centres.
2. Children will not be allowed to attend Hopscotch if they have been medicated with pain relief within a 4 hour period of their booked hours. Hopscotch may make an allowance for children who have been given medication, at the Supervisor's discretion.
3. A child suffering from any of the following symptoms will be excluded or required to leave the centre as soon as possible. If a parent is unavailable or unable to collect their child soon enough, the emergency contact person listed on the child's enrolment form may be contacted.
 - The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in the centre activities.
 - The illness results in a greater care need that we can reasonably provide without compromising the health and safety of the other children.
 - Difficulty breathing.
 - Persistent coughing.
 - Diarrhoea. Children should not return to the centre until 48 hours after they have had at least one normal bowel motion.
 - Vomiting. Children should not return to the centre until 48 hours after the absence of symptoms.
 - Fever over 38°C. Centre staff will take a child's temperature twice within a 20 minute period. If the temperature is still above 38°C the child will be required to go home.
 - Flu or flu-like symptoms such as headache combined with aches and pains and fatigue.
 - Rash, with fever or behaviour change, until a doctor has determined that the illness is not a communicable disease.
 - Head lice or thread worm. Children will be allowed to return to the centre on the assurance that they are being treated AND have no live lice or worms.
 - Other signs of possible severe illness.

4. A child suffering from any of the following symptoms may be excluded or required to leave the centre as soon as possible, at the discretion of the Licensee, Supervisor or Second in Charge.
 - A child requiring pain relief (ie Pamol).
 - Persistent crying.
 - Head colds producing green mucus. Children with colds producing clear mucus will be allowed to remain at the centre so long as they do not require a greater level of care than is usual for that child.
5. Ministry of Health exclusion guidelines will be followed for any conditions not listed above.
6. Information will be sought on the enrolment form regarding chronic illness or allergies. Consultation will take place between the parent and a member of management staff with regard to the exact details of the illness or allergy. Individual health plans and emergency procedures will be developed for children who suffer from a chronic illness or other medical condition.
7. Individual health plans will be written in consultation with parents for children who suffer from a chronic illness or other medical condition.
8. Hopscotch will provide an area and facilities suitable for the temporary isolation and care of at least one sick child. Staff will ensure that health and safety policy guidelines are followed when handling sick children to ensure hygiene and infection control outcomes are met. Hopscotch will ensure that where a child attending the centre has any minor illness, all practicable steps are taken to isolate the child from the others attending the centre and (subject to Licensing Criteria HS26) return the child to the care of an appropriate parent, guardian or whanau member without delay.
9. In the case of an accident to, or serious illness of, a child occurring or noticed at Hopscotch that requires immediate medical aid, the Licensee or Supervisor must without delay ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to get medical aid and to notify an appropriate parent/caregiver. Please refer to our Accidents Policy.
10. We reserve the right to request a medical certificate from a health professional before allowing a child to return to the centre after an illness.