

## HIV AIDS Policy

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### NQS

QA2	2.1	Each child's health and physical activity is supported and promoted.
	2.1.2	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.

### National Regulations

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

### Aim

Noarlunga Community Children's Centres 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  
 Staff  
 Families  
 Community  
 Visitors  
 Management

## Implementation

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

The following provides basic information on HIV/AIDS -

HIV/AIDS is a medical condition which can damage a body's immune system.

In Australia HIV/AIDS infections are caused by

- unprotected sex
- Sharing drug injecting equipment.
- Spread of the virus from mother to infant during pregnancy, birth or breast feeding.
- Receiving blood or blood products before screening was introduced in 1985

HIV spreads through direct contact with infected blood body fluids, usually through needle puncture, broken skin or a break in the mucus membranes. HIV/AIDS does not spread through social contact in schools, home or in the workplace. It does not spread through air or water; swimming pools or toilets; sharing of plates, cups or cutlery; or kissing, coughing, sneezing or spitting. HIV is not spread by mosquitoes or other biting insects.

The confidentiality of medical information must be adhered to regarding an infected child. Any information disclosed to the Nominated Supervisor regarding a child from family members must not be passed on to any other staff member unless the child's caregivers provide written authorisation.

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 EAR on any child a mouth to mouth mask will be used.

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**

**Early Years Learning Framework**

**National Quality Standard**

**Public Health (Amendment) Act 1991**

**Anti Discrimination Act 1997**

**National Health and Medical Research Council. (2012). Staying Healthy in Child Care – Preventing infectious diseases in child care (5<sup>th</sup> Edition)**

## Review

The policy will be reviewed annually.

Review will be conducted by:

- Management
- Employees
- Families
- Interested Parties.

**Reviewed: April 2013**

**Date for next review: April 2014**

**Last reviewed: June 2016**

**Date for next review: June 2017**

**Last reviewed: April 2017**

**Date for next review: April 2018**

**Last reviewed: April 2018**

**Date for next review: April 2019**