

Only Early Learning Centre



Immunisation Policy

Centre Policy Number 7

7 Columbia Way Baulkham Hills
Ph- 96808381
Email- info@onlyelc.com.au
Web- www.onlyelc.com.au
FB- @onlyelc

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Aim

Only Early Learning Centre recognises the special vulnerability of young children and their need for ongoing care, support and protection. We as a centre, are fully committed to working for and on behalf of all young children and actively promoting appropriate standards in support services for young children and their families.

Who is affected by this policy

Children
Educators
Staff
Management
Visitors
Families

Immunisation Overview

Immunisation is a reliable way to prevent some infections. Immunisation works by giving a person a vaccine—often a dead or modified version of the germ—against a particular disease. This makes the person’s immune system respond in a similar way to how it would respond if they actually had the disease, but with less severe symptoms. If the person comes in contact with that germ in the future, their immune system can rapidly respond and prevent the person becoming ill.

Immunisation also protects other people who are not immunised, such as children who are too young to be immunised, or people whose immune systems did not respond to the vaccine. This is because the more people who are immunised against a disease, the lower the chance that a person will ever come into contact with someone who has the disease. The chance of an infection spreading in a community therefore decreases if a large proportion of people are immunised, because the immune people will not become infected and can protect the vulnerable people.

No Jab No Pay

As of January 2016, new immunisation requirements came into force affecting child care benefits and family assistance payments (the Commonwealth) and the enrolment of children in child care (in VIC). The Commonwealth made changes under the ‘No Jab, No Pay’ measure to increase childhood vaccination rates causing families to no longer be eligible for child care benefits and family assistance payments **with exceptions for children recorded with medical contraindications or natural immunity for certain diseases and those on a recognised catch-up schedule.**



NSW Regulations

From 1 January 2018:

- Only children who are fully immunised for their age OR have a medical reason not to be immunised OR are on a catch-up schedule can be enrolled in childcare.
- Children who have not been immunised due to their parent's vaccine conscientious objection cannot be enrolled in childcare.
- All parents need to provide childcare staff with appropriate immunisation documentation to enrol their child.

What Documentation is Accepted

The New South Wales Ministry of Health advises that from 1 January 2018, parents must provide a copy of one or more of only three documents in order to enrol in an early childhood education or childcare service in NSW:

- 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.

Accessing ACIR Statement

Parents automatically receive their child's AIR Immunisation History Statement in the mail after they complete their immunisation schedule (sometime after 4 years of age).

A copy of their child's immunisation details can also be obtained at any time by:

- using their Medicare online account through MyGov
- using the Medicare Express Plus App
- calling the AIR General Enquiries Line on 1800 653 809

Immunisation Responsibilities

Only Early Learning Centre Management are responsible for:

- Reviewing children's immunisation regularly, updating the child's records kept at the service, and sending reminder letters.

- Not enrolling a child into the Service unless approved documentation has been provided that confirms the child is fully immunised for their age or has a medical reason not to be immunised.
- Providing staff with information about vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Taking all reasonable steps to encourage non-immune staff to be vaccinated.
- Notifying families when an outbreak of an immunisable disease occurs.
- Exclude any child who is not immunised from the Service if and when an outbreak of an immunisable infectious disease occurs to protect that child and to prevent further spread of infection.

The Families at Only Early Learning Centre are responsible for:

- Providing the service with a copy of one or more of the following documents
 - An Immunisation History Statement which shows that the child is up to date with their scheduled vaccinations;
 - or - An Immunisation History Form on which the immunisation provider has certified that the child is on a recognised catch-up schedule;
 - or - An Immunisation Medical Exemption Form which has been certified by a GP,
- Provide the service with an updated copy of their child's current immunisation record each time their child receives a new immunisation.

Children with Overseas Vaccinations

Overseas immunisation records will not be accepted by Only Early Learning Centre. The overseas immunisation records need to be assessed by an Australian immunisation provider who will transfer the information to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR). Parents can then request an AIR Immunisation History Statement.

NSW Immunisation Schedule

NSW Immunisation Schedule

from 1 July 2018

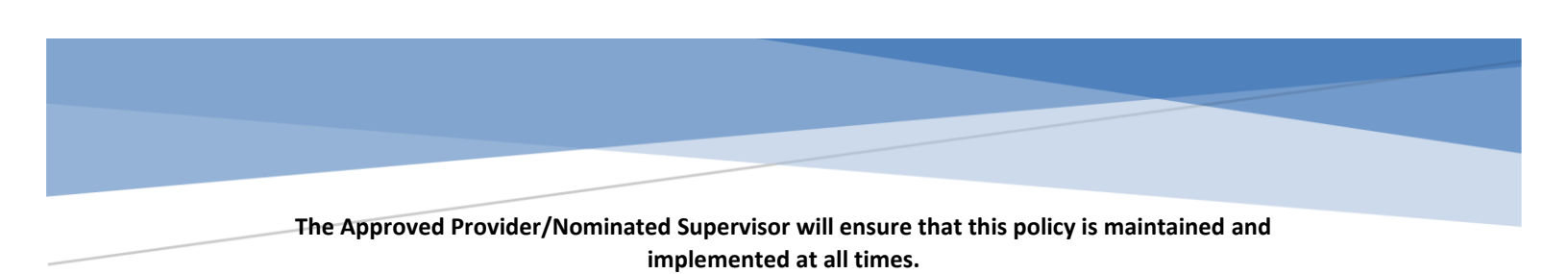


AGE	DISEASE	VACCINE
CHILDHOOD VACCINES		
Birth	Hepatitis B	H-B-VAX II OR ENGERIX B
6 weeks	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b, hepatitis B, polio	INFANRIX HEXA
	Pneumococcal	PREVENAR 13
	Rotavirus	ROTARIX
4 months	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, <i>Haemophilus influenzae</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)



The Approved Provider/Nominated Supervisor will ensure that this policy is maintained and implemented at all times.

Sources

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010

167 Offence relating to protection of children from harm and hazards

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

88 Infectious diseases

90 Medical conditions policy

77 Health, hygiene and safe food practices

162 Health information to be kept in enrolment record

National Quality Standards 2018

2.1 Health

2.1.2 Health practices and procedures

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually. Review will be conducted by management, employees, parents and any interested parties.

Reviewed: 21st February 2019

By: Alex Jury

Approved By: Kelly Williams

Date for next review: 21st February 2020