

Mawson Lakes Preschool Policy

Support for Medical Conditions



At Mawson Lakes Preschool we support children and families in managing their medical needs. We recognise some conditions including Asthma, Allergies, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes, Epilepsy and Cystic Fibrosis affect many families and specialist care may be required.

This policy outlines our procedures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children, and meet the medical needs of individuals.

At Mawson Lakes Preschool:

- Children have a right to be safe at Preschool and be treated with respect.
- Our curriculum is inclusive and all children, regardless of need will be supported to engage in all areas of the curriculum.

Strategies we will use to support children with Medical conditions:

- The core staff will undertake regular First Aid, Asthma, and Anaphylaxis Training to industry standard (HLTAID0004).
- All staff will be given access to appropriate training and information to meet the needs of other medical conditions when relevant.
- Ensure that a fully trained staff member is always onsite.
- All staff will have access to the DfE web link regarding Health and Safety for children – reminders will be given once per term through staff meetings.
- Confidentially collect written information from families about the child's medical needs including any limitations to accessing the curriculum, medical support and reports from any other agencies (eg physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech pathologists etc) to ensure we are fully aware of the needs of their child.
- Educate our Preschool community where appropriate to ensure all families are aware of the need to maintain a safe environment for children and/or staff with medical conditions, including adhering to our *Healthy Eating Policy*, which outlines our procedures for managing food related allergens. This will be addressed through regular updates to our newsletters, in enrolment procedures and Parent Information sessions.
- Staff will work with families, health services and schools to support the ongoing medical needs of children identified with medical conditions.
- As part of the staff induction procedure all staff will be made aware of individual children's needs in a confidential manner.
- Ensure relevant information and Medical Plans are in place prior to a child beginning Preschool. A copy of each child's Medical Plan will be kept with their enrolment form, and a copy in the child's medication box with any required medication. Children will not be able to attend Preschool without these provisions in place.
- Medication boxes will be labelled with a photo of the child and kept in the first aid area in the kitchen at preschool.
- Regular checks of expiry dates of medication will be completed. Staff will contact families to replace expired medication when needed.
- Ensure medication is checked and administered when needed by a trained staff member and witnessed by another staff member, as per child's medication Plan/Authority signed by a Doctor and following the guidelines and expectations of the National Quality Standards for Preschools.
- Ensure appropriate documentation is maintained and parents are informed on the day of administration.
- The First Aid Cupboard is checked annually and is fully stocked including two emergency Asthma kits and epipen, to ensure the safety of undiagnosed children who present with asthma symptoms.
- Regularly review our Emergency and Medical procedures and policies as part of our WHS procedure.
- In the case of an emergency, staff will call for an ambulance and emergency contacts will be contacted immediately.

Parents of children with medical needs are expected to:

- Provide Preschool staff with correct, up to date written information regarding their child's health and wellbeing at the time of enrolment, and update us immediately of any changes.
- Ensure all emergency contact details are up to date to allow staff to contact appropriate persons quickly and easily.
- Provide Preschool staff with the appropriate medical plan/s which have been signed and completed by their child's doctor, prior to commencement at preschool.
- Provide all medication as stated in the medical plan each day their child attends preschool.
- Provide relevant contacts and/or reports to enable staff to liaise with other professionals involved in caring for their child's health and medical needs.

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- Inform Preschool staff if a medical condition is identified, which could impact on their own or other's health and safety at Preschool, and provide relevant written information, as above.
- Refrain from sending children to Preschool for the first 24 hours following commencement of an unfamiliar course of medication, (including antibiotics) in case of an allergic reaction.

Curriculum /Learning environment:

- Provide experiences to promote awareness of diversity and well being, and encourage and model inclusive practices. (*Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing- children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing.*)
- Provide information to children about a variety of medical conditions, where applicable, and provide opportunities for medical professionals eg., Nurses, Doctors, Ambulance staff to visit preschool and share their knowledge.
- Promote respect, compassion and caring for others through explicit teaching strategies and the use of learning resources including Program Achieve (You Can Do It program) and The Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum.

References

National Quality Standard 2.1 (2011)

<http://www.acecqa.gov.au/Childrens-health-and-safety>

Education and Care Services National Regulation's – Part 4.2 Children's health and Safety; Regulation 90 (2011)

<http://files.acecqa.gov.au/files/National-Quality-Framework-Resources-Kit/NQF-Resource-02-Guide-to-ECS-Law-Regs.pdf>

Early Years Learning Framework (2009)

Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

<https://www.acecqa.gov.au/nqf/national-law-regulations/approved-learning-frameworks>