

3.1 EDUCATOR HEALTH

Policy No: 3.1

Policy Adopted: December 2013

Version No: 2 under Education and Care Services National Regulations under the Education and Care Services National Law

Review Date: September 2014

PURPOSE To ensure the maintenance of high quality care for children

POLICY Educators only perform their duties when their physical and mental health does not have a negative impact on the health, safety and wellbeing of children

PROCEDURES

1. prior to registration educators must provide a medical certificate to demonstrate that they are physically and emotionally able to care for young children
2. in order to provide ongoing care for children an educator must be in good health and free from any medical conditions or dependency on any medication or substance that may affect the educator's ability to provide care; a medical certificate or Statutory Declaration stating health status has not changed, must be provided annually
3. educators must notify the coordination unit if they use regular medication, and provide a medical certificate confirming ability to provide care for children
4. When an educator or a person normally resident in the home contracts an infectious or contagious disease, the educator cannot provide care for the exclusion period (refer to Infectious Disease & Exclusion policy and Table 1; Guidelines for Exclusion).
5. If an educator has any diagnosed medical condition, e.g asthma / anaphylaxis / diabetes a medical management plan must be provided from the educators medical practitioner. The medical management plan must be provided annually or if the condition changes.
6. If an educator undergoes hospitalisation or is absent from providing an education and care service due to illness for more than one month, they must supply the nominated supervisor with a medical certificate confirming educator's ability to care for children prior to resuming their education and care service
7. The nominated supervisor reserves the right if considered necessary to request an educator to undergo a medical examination/psychological assessment to confirm current physical/mental fitness to care for children
8. It is recommended that all educators discuss their immunisation status in relation to working with children, with their general practitioner
9. Educators are encouraged to take some recreational leave from providing their education and care service for stress management
10. In the event of an educator experiencing a critical incident, the coordination unit will encourage and support the educator to seek professional counselling. Refer to Critical Incidents Policy.
11. Educators will be provided with training information on Occupational Risks for Childcare

workers including back care and lifting; immunisation; infectious diseases, and pregnancy

Source:

- Education and Care Services Regulation—83, 163
- Health & Safety in Family Day Care Models & Practices 2nd Edition-Frith, Kambouris, O'Grady

Forms:

- Medical certificate requirements
- Medical Management Plan