EXCLUSIONS FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND ACUTELY ILL CHILDREN AND STAFF POLICY

AIM: To minimise the spread of infectious diseases between children, other children and preschool staff, by conforming to the NHMRC requirements TABLE 1.1 Staying Healthy 5th Edition for exclusion of children with infectious diseases and other legislative requirements. (nhmrc.gov.au)

PROCEDURES:

1) Exclude from care and notify the local Public Health Unit and provide details of any known or suspected person (children or preschool staff) with any of the following vaccine preventable diseases:
   - Diptheria
   - Measles
   - Mumps
   - Pertussis (whooping cough)
   - Polio Myelitis
   - Rubella
   - Tetanus
   - Chickenpox

2) Exclude children, staff, volunteers or visitors who have infectious diseases other than listed above in accordance with the NHMRC Recommended Minimum Periods of Exclusion TABLE 1.1

3) Under the Food Act (NSW) 1989, exclude staff from food handling duties who have skin infections or who are ill from gastroenteritis or hepatitis A.

4) Exclude children who:
   - are acutely ill and may need to see a doctor
   - are too ill to participate in normal children’s activities
   - may require extra supervision to the detriment of the care and safety of the child or other children
   - who are ill from gastroenteritis or hepatitis A
   - have symptoms or signs of a possible infection

5) Request from the Public Health Unit a clearance to attend for children who have had diptheria, hepatitis A, polio, tuberculosis, Typhoid or paratyphoid infection

6) Ensure all staff and persons normally working or visiting the preschool conform to all infectious disease policies.

7) Advise families that when children have commenced treatment with a medication the child should not attend preschool for at least 24 hours to ensure the child is recovering and is not having effects from the medication.
8) If a child has been unable to attend preschool because of an infectious illness, when the child has fully recovered ask the family to obtain a certificate from their doctor which specifically states the child is not infectious and is able to attend preschool.