

Dental Health

Policy Statement

The Centre promotes good dental habits, and is also committed to minimising any risk to children's dental health from food and drink consumed at the Centre.

Links Education and Care Centres National Regulations 2018, National Quality Standard 2018

Regs 77 Food and Beverages

87 Incident, injury, trauma and illness record

QA 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.

2.1.3 Healthy eating and physical activity are promoted and appropriate for each child.

Procedures

- The *Dental Health Policy* is made available to parents when they enrol their child in the Centre. Parent's responsibilities are explained to them when required.
- The oral health message is promoted amongst families through notice boards, newsletters, pamphlets.
- Children are encouraged to drink water after meal times and are able to freely access it through a bubbler and water station throughout the sessions.
- Parents are asked to provide healthy foods in their children's lunchboxes, particularly fruit and vegetables for morning and afternoon tea during vacation care days. Children are discouraged from bringing in foods high in sugar.
- Children are encouraged to drink water or rinse their mouth out after eating.
- Educators use opportunities that arise during children's play and at meal and snack times to talk to the children about dental health issues. The Centre resources include plastic 'healthy food. When appropriate to children's interest and the program, educators intentionality teach children about looking after their teeth through activities such as: games; food preparation; and, cooking experiences.
- The centre ensures children are provided highly nutritious and with minimum sugar content snacks for afternoon tea and breakfast cereals in the morning.

Dental emergencies

It is important for Educators to be aware of how to manage dental accidents and emergencies.

Our Service will:

- ensure there is an Educator on duty with current first aid qualifications to follow dental accident procedures
- ensure procedures for Adminstrating First Aid are adhered to (including completing a Illness, Accident or Trauma record)
- ensure families are notified of any injury as soon as is reasonably practicable
- ensure that the phone number of an emergency dentist is located near the office phone

- ensure children are supervised at all times to minimise accidents and incidents.
- Ensure any serious incidents that required the attendance to a medical practitioner are reported to ACECQA on the centres serious incident notification form within 24hours of the incident occurring.

Responsibilities of parents

- To provide nutritious foods and drinks according to information contained in the [Dental Health Policy](#) and in the [Nutrition, Food and Beverages Policy](#). Food and drinks brought from home should be nutritious, provide variety and follow current dietary guidelines.

Sources, further reading and useful websites

Sources

NSW Government Health- Oral Health

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/oralhealth/pages/default.aspx>

accessed October, 2014

Comments:

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