

2.19 CHILD HEALTH STATEMENT

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

Lindfield Montessori School complies with all legal requirements for the protection of the health and safety of children.

A written record is maintained of each child's immunisation, emergency contacts, allergies and special needs. The doctor's name, phone number and address are included in the Confidential Information form.

Hygienic practices are built into the programme, eg. All children are taught to wash their hands after going to the bathroom and before eating meals, and as required.

Staff are to ensure that children are appropriately dressed for current weather conditions. Parents are asked to provide a change of clothes to cater for variable weather conditions.

ILLNESSES AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Children are not permitted to attend the School with a fever above 38 degrees celsius, an infectious disease or a nuisance disease. These conditions protect other children and are requirements of the Department of Education and Communities.

The following are regarded as infectious diseases:

- Conjunctivitis
- Chicken pox
- Diphtheria
- Glandular fever
- Hepatitis: Viral Hepatitis Type A
- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella (German Measles)
- Whooping cough
- Impetigo (school sores)
- Head lice
- Ringworm or Scabies
- Hand, foot and mouth disease

The following are regarded as nuisance diseases or conditions:

- Ears: any discharge
- Unusual stools
- Thrush
- Abnormal Temperature (above 38 degrees celsius)
- Gastroenteritis

Parents are asked to advise the Principal if their child has contracted any infectious diseases so that the staff can take appropriate measures.

The school retains the right to exclude children who are regarded by the directors as a health hazard or who are obviously unwell. See recommended minimum exclusion periods for infectious diseases in the *Infectious Diseases Policy*.

If your child has contracted an infectious disease (see *Infectious Diseases Policy*), a medical certificate is required that states that the child will not be infectious to other children if returning prior to the advisable period. Children who have been vomiting within the last 12 hours before arrival or who have had diarrhoea within the last 24 hours are not to be brought to the School.

Should a child at the School contract an infectious disease, a notice will be placed on the notice board and an email sent advising parents of the illness and the signs and symptoms. Children or staff members who acquire a transmittable disease will be excluded from the School in order to control further outbreaks.

ALLERGIES

On identifying that a child has an allergy on their Confidential Information form, the Principal will arrange a meeting with the child's parents/guardians to create a Risk Assessment and Management Plan that outlines how the child's allergy is managed while in care.

It is the responsibility of the parents to notify the School of any known allergies experienced by their children. In the case of serious allergies (such as anaphylactic shock food allergies), parents must notify the School in writing of:

- The nature of the allergy, its causes and seriousness.
- The symptoms associated with the allergy.
- Relevant emergency procedures.
- Emergency contact numbers including the names of any specialists or treating physicians who should be contacted by the School, ambulance personnel or hospitals in an emergency.

The School will take steps to ensure that their staff are aware of emergency procedures and that its staff do what is reasonably practicable to prevent children eating food that has not been brought from home. Parents must ensure that children with food allergies bring suitable food from home, not only for lunch but also for regular celebrations, parties, school excursions etc.

POLICY REVIEWED	MODIFICATIONS	NEXT REVIEW DATE
November 2021	Updated copy	2023