



The Briars Special Early Learning Centre

Health Support Policy

Staff at The Briars are committed to supporting the health and well-being of all children. We acknowledge that families have responsibility for their child's health care. This responsibility includes providing relevant, accurate and up to date information about their child's health care needs especially where this may impact on a routine first aid response.

ROUTINE HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE SUPPORT

Staff will provide personal care, including assistance with eating and drinking, transfer and positioning, personal hygiene and toileting support. Personal care will be provided to maximise privacy, dignity, independence and safety. Where specific mealtime or transfer and positioning needs arise, staff will liaise with families and agencies involved.

FIRST AID

First Aid Officers receive regular training in First Aid and will administer standard first aid. Families will be informed when first aid has been administered to their child at preschool.

HEALTH SUPPORT PLANNING (eg asthma, epilepsy, allergies etc)

Children with diagnosed medical conditions will require a specific Health Support Plan (HSP). This will be developed at enrolment in consultation with families, or as needs arise. The Department Health Care Plan forms can be provided by the preschool for families to take to their medical practitioner.

MEDICATION

If medication needs to be administered at preschool, then a Medication Authority form must be completed and signed by a medical practitioner and by the parent / guardian. Medication must be in the original pharmacy container with directions on the label clearly stating child's name, medication (within use by date), the dosage, the strength and times to administer. Staff will maintain a medication log. The Department staff cannot administer out-of-date medication, or medication that is not labelled.

ILLNESS OR INJURY AT PRESCHOOL

Staff will provide routine first aid in the event of illness or injury occurring at preschool. Children who have contracted an illness or may be infectious cannot remain at preschool. Some children attending The Briars have very fragile health and are more susceptible to infection. A common cold to these children may lead to severe infections resulting in a lengthy hospital stay.

If a child arrives at preschool or becomes unwell their family (and / or emergency contacts) will be contacted and collection of the child will need to be arranged. The child may be excluded from the other children until collection. It remains the responsibility of the family to ensure their child is well before returning to preschool.

The 'Exclusion from Child Care, Preschool and School' document, produced by the Communicable Disease Control Branch, must be adhered to in all circumstances.