

**HEALTH & SAFETY – EXCLUSION / INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

**POLICY**

For the general health and well-being of children and adults, it is necessary to minimise the risk of cross infection through strict hygiene practices (see *Health & Safety – Infection Control & Hygiene*) and the isolation of any persons from the Family Day Care home in the case of infection occurring. An Educator is not required to provide care if an infectious disease/condition is present. This policy covers all members of the FDC home.

Exclusion practices must respect the rights of individual privacy and be in keeping with Commonwealth and State health authorities’ regulations and recommendations that specifically deal with a particular disease.

**PROCEDURE**

1. Information about the occurrence of an infectious disease/condition within the FDC home must be made available to parents/guardians of children in care as soon as infection is identified. It must be made available in a manner that is not prejudicial to the rights of individual children or the Educator or members of the household.
2. **Exclusion of Children With Infection** - see table below
  - Children with some infectious diseases may be excluded until they are considered not at risk of passing on the infection.
  - Children with oozing sores which cannot be contained by a dressing should be excluded.
  - Children known to be carriers of blood-borne viruses, such as Hepatitis B or C, or HIV (the AIDS virus) are not to be excluded from care unless there is some other infection which would normally require exclusion, or for their own protection.
3. **Exclusion of Children Without Infection (contacts)** - see table below
  - Unimmunised children may need to be excluded during outbreaks of a disease.
  - Any child with an immune deficiency (eg. Leukemia) should be excluded for their own protection.

**MINIMUM EXCLUSION PERIODS**

Conditions	Exclusion of Cases	Exclusion of Contacts
Amoebiasis ( <i>Entamoeba histolytica</i> )	Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased	Not excluded
Campylobacter	Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased	Not excluded
Chicken pox	Exclude until fully recovered or for at least 5 days after the eruption first appears. Note that some remaining scabs are not a reason for continued exclusion	Any child with an immune deficiency (eg. leukemia) or receiving chemotherapy should be excluded for their own protection. Otherwise not excluded.
Conjunctivitis	Exclude until discharge from eyes has ceased	Not excluded
Cytomegalovirus infection	Not excluded	Not excluded
Diarrhoea	Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased or until medical certificate of recovery is produced	Not excluded
Diphtheria	Exclude until medical certificate of recovery is received following at least two negative throat swabs, the first not less than 24 hours after finishing a course of antibiotics and the other 48 hours later	Exclude family/household contacts until cleared to return by the appropriate health authority
Glandular fever (mononucleosis)	Not excluded	Not excluded
Hand, foot and mouth disease	Until all blisters have dried	Not excluded
Haemophilus type b (Hib)	Exclude until medical certificate of recovery is received	Not excluded

Continued ...

**MT ALEXANDER FAMILY DAY CARE - POLICY / PROCEDURE**

**HEALTH & SAFETY - EXCLUSION / INFECTIOUS DISEASES - Continued**

**MINIMUM EXCLUSION PERIODS** (Cont.)

<b>Conditions</b>	<b>Exclusion of Cases</b>	<b>Exclusion of Contacts</b>
<b>Hepatitis A</b>	Exclude until medical certificate of recovery is received, but not before 7 days after the onset of jaundice or illness	Not excluded
<b>Hepatitis B</b>	Not excluded	Not excluded
<b>Hepatitis C</b>	Not excluded	Not excluded
<b>Herpes (cold sores)</b>	Young children unable to comply with good hygiene practices should be excluded while the lesion is weeping. Lesions to be covered by dressing where possible	Not excluded
<b>Hookworm</b>	Not excluded	Not excluded
<b>Human immuno-deficiency virus infection (HIV/AIDS virus)</b>	Exclusion is not necessary unless the child has a secondary infection	Not excluded
<b>Impetigo (school sores)</b>	Exclude until appropriate treatment has commenced. Sores on exposed surfaces must be covered with a watertight dressing.	Not excluded
<b>Influenza and influenza like illness</b>	Exclude until well	Not excluded
<b>Leprosy</b>	Exclude until approval to return has been given by the appropriate health authority	Not excluded
<b>Measles</b>	Exclude for at least 4 days after onset of rash	Immunised contacts not excluded. Unimmunised contacts should be excluded until 14 days after the first day of appearance of rash in the last case. If unimmunised contacts are vaccinated within 72 hours of their first contact with the first case they may return to care.
<b>Meningitis (bacteria)</b>	Exclude until well	Not excluded
<b>Meningococcal infection</b>	Exclude until adequate carrier eradication therapy has been completed	Not excluded if receiving carrier eradication therapy
<b>Molluscum contagiosum</b>	Not excluded	Not excluded
<b>Mumps</b>	Exclude for 9 days or until swelling goes down (whichever is sooner)	Not excluded
<b>Parvovirus (erythema infectiosum fifth disease)</b>	Not excluded	Not excluded
<b>Poliomyelitis</b>	Exclude for at least 14 days from onset. Re-admit after receiving medical certificate of recovery	Not excluded
<b>Ringworm, Scabies, Pediculosis (head lice)</b>	Re-admit the day after appropriate treatment has commenced	Not excluded
<b>Rubella (german measles)</b>	Exclude until fully recovered or for at least four days after the onset of rash	Not excluded
<b>Salmonella, Shigella</b>	Exclude until diarrhoea has ceased	Not excluded
<b>Streptococcal infection (including scarlet fever)</b>	Exclude until the child has received antibiotic treatment for at least 24 hours and the child feels well	Not excluded
<b>Trachoma</b>	Re-admit the day after appropriate treatment has commenced	Not excluded
<b>Tuberculosis</b>	Exclude until receipt of medical certificate from the treating physician stating that the child is not considered to be infectious	Not excluded
<b>Typhoid fever (including paratyphoid fever)</b>	Exclude until approval to return has been given by the appropriate health authority	Not excluded unless considered necessary by the appropriate health authority
<b>Whooping cough (pertussis)</b>	Exclude the child for 5 days after starting antibiotic treatment	Exclude unimmunised household contacts aged less than 7 years and close child care contacts for 14 days after the last exposure to infection or until they have taken 5 days of a 10 day course of antibiotics
<b>Worms (intestinal)</b>	Exclude if diarrhoea present	Not excluded

Source: Communicable Diseases Section. Vic Government Dept of Human Services. June 2001

Reviewed September 2008, July 2009, July 2012