

**HEALTH & SAFETY – HEALTH OF EDUCATORS AND CHILDREN**

**POLICY**

It is necessary that Educators have up to date information from health authorities in relation to procedures to minimise cross infection.

There are risks associated with the consumption of alcohol and other drugs when operating in precise situations.

The risk to passive smokers in a non-smoke free environment is considerable. Educators should also be aware of the possible legal implications of not providing a smoke free environment in the Family Day Care home and car used for children in their care.

**PROCEDURE**

1. Educators must be of good health and free from any medical conditions or dependency on any medication and/or substance that may affect their ability to care for children.
2. Educators who have been unable to work due to illness or after any medical procedure must produce a certificate from their doctor confirming their ability to work, with any restrictions to full duties outlined. The Educator and Coordination Unit will then work out an appropriate return to work plan, subject to review.
3. Educators requiring regular medication should hold a medical certificate confirming their ability to care for children.
4. No person who is adversely affected by drugs or alcohol shall supervise or remain in the presence of a child in care.
5. The Educator shall not consume alcohol during the hours children are in care.
6. The Educator shall ensure the environment is smoke-free (in the house and car) while children are in care
7. The Educator shall observe strict health, hygiene and sun protection practices in relation to children that have regard to current community standards and are in accord with relevant government guidelines to minimise risks to children.
8. The Educator shall encourage children to observe these practices.

Source: Mt Alexander FDC Handbook  
National Law, Regulations and Standards (ACECQA 2011)  
"Staying Healthy in Childcare, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, NHMRC  
Advice from Shire of Mt Alexander Environmental Health Department.

Reviewed September 2005, November 2008, July 2009, July 2012