



Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy & Procedure

Statement

At Rose Park Community Childcare (RPCC) all educators can effectively respond to and manage accidents, illness and emergencies which occur at RPCC, to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children, educators and visitors.

Background

The Education and Care Services National Regulations require approved providers to ensure their services have policies and procedures in place around the safety, health and wellbeing of children.

In the National Quality Framework element 2.1.2 focuses on effective illness and injury management.

Legislative Requirements

Section/regulation	Description
Section 51	Conditions on service approval (safety, health and wellbeing of children)
Regulation 85	Incident, injury, trauma and illness policies and procedures
Regulation 86	Notification to parents of incident, injury, trauma and illness
Regulation 87	Incident, injury, trauma and illness record

NQF	
Element 2.1.2	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented

Work Health and Safety Act 2012

Procedure

This policy and related policies and procedures at RPCC will be followed by the nominated supervisor and educators of, and volunteers at, RPCC in the event that a child -

- (a) is injured; or
- (b) becomes ill; or
- (c) suffers a trauma.

All educators employed at RPCC are to have an up to date first aid training. They will never exceed their qualifications and competence when administering first aid. We will ensure first aid training (which includes anaphylaxis and asthma management) is current and updated at least every 3 years,

and that all components of the first aid certificate are current if some require an earlier revision. The CPR component will be updated annually.

During induction training for new educators and educators we will:

- advise the location of the first aid kits
- obtain information about any first aid needs the educator may have that could require specific treatment in a medical emergency. This information will be placed in the Emergency folder, located in the filing cabinet in the office, which will be taken with the child contact lists in an emergency.

The Nominated Supervisor (or appropriate person) will ensure that a parent of a child is notified as soon as practicably possible and without undue delay. Parents will be notified no later than 24 hours of the injury, illness or trauma. The appropriate form will need to be signed by the parent/guardian.

Administration of First Aid

If there is an accident, illness or injury requiring first aid, the following response procedure will be implemented:

- Educator reviews child's medical information including any medical information disclosed on the child's enrolment form, medical management plan or medical risk minimisation plan before the educator attends to the injured or ill child or adult.
- Educators supervise and care for children near the incident, illness or injury
- If required, educators or nominated supervisor notifies parent or authorised nominee that child requires medical attention from a medical practitioner as a result of the injury.
- If required, educators or nominated supervisor contacts parent or authorised nominee to collect child from RPCC due to an illness.
- Educators ensure appropriate records are completed in full and without delay and parent or authorised nominee is notified as soon as possible and within 24 hours of the injury, illness or trauma.

First Aid Kit Guidelines

First aid kits will be easily recognised and readily available where children are present at RPCC and during excursions. They will be suitably equipped having regard to the hazards at RPCC, past and potential injuries and size and location of RPCC.

Any First Aid kit at the service must -

- Not be locked.
- Not contain paracetamol.
- Be appropriate for the number of employees and children and adequate for the immediate treatment of injuries at RPCC.
- Be in a place that takes an employee no longer than two minutes to reach, including time required to access secure areas.
- Contain a list of the contents of the kit.

- Have a white cross on a green background with the words 'First Aid' prominently displayed on the outside.
- Display emergency telephone numbers.
- First Aid kits must be taken on excursions.

First Aid Kit Checklist

RPCC will have the kits checked annually by an external supplier, who will restock anything that has expired or is in low supply.

We will determine whether we need additional items to those in the checklist, or whether some items are unnecessary, after considering the number of children at RPCC and what injuries children or adults may incur. We will check our incident, injury, trauma and illness records to help us make an informed decision about what to include. Educators may wish to provide additional items or modules, for example burns modules and eye wound modules. We will also include appropriate resources to deal with a child at risk of anaphylaxis and other medical conditions.

Notification of serious incidents and complaints

The Approved Provider will notify the regulatory authority within 24 hours of any serious incident at our service (s. 174). This includes any serious injury or trauma to, or illness of a child which a reasonable person would consider required urgent medical attention from a medical practitioner or for which the child attended, or ought reasonably to have attended, a hospital.

Serious injuries, traumas and illnesses include:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • head injuries • broken limbs • burns • removal of fingers • meningococcal infection • anaphylactic reaction requiring urgent medical attention • witnessing violence or a frightening event | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • epileptic seizures • bronchiolitis • whooping cough • measles • diarrhoea requiring urgent medical attention • asthma requiring urgent medical attention • sexual assault |
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A serious incident also includes:

- The death of a child at RPCC or following an incident at RPCC
- An incident at RPCC where the emergency services attended or ought reasonably to have attended
- A child is missing
- A child has been taken from RPCC without the authorisations required under the regulations
- A child is mistakenly locked in or out of RPCC.

If the management of RPCC only becomes aware that the incident was serious afterwards, we will notify the regulatory authority within 24 hours of becoming aware that the incident was serious.

We will notify the regulator using the online portal NQAITS.

The Approved Provider will also notify the regulatory authority in writing:

- within 24 hours of any complaints alleging that the safety, health or wellbeing of a child is being compromised at RPCC or
- within 7 days of any circumstances arising at RPCC that pose a risk to the health, safety and wellbeing of a child.
- within 24 hours of the attendance of any children being educated and care for in an emergency. This includes where the child needs protection under a child protection order or the parent of the child needs urgent health care. The emergency care can be for no more than two consecutive days that RPCC operates.

We will advise the regulatory authority what the emergency is and make a statement that the Approved Provider has taken into account the safety, health and wellbeing of all the children attending RPCC before deciding to accept the additional child/children.

Work Health and Safety (WHS) requirements – for educators

Serious injury or illness is a “notifiable incident”. *Serious injury or illness means a person requires:*

- *immediate treatment as an in-patient in a hospital, or*
- *immediate treatment for:*
 - *the amputation of any part of the body*
 - *a serious head injury*
 - *a serious eye injury*
 - *a serious burn*
 - *the separation of skin from an underlying tissue (such as degloving or scalping)*
 - *a spinal injury*
 - *the loss of a bodily function*
 - *serious lacerations or*
- *medical treatment within 48 hours of exposure to a substance.*

and includes any other injury or illness prescribed by the regulations but does not include an illness or injury of a prescribed kind.

A **serious illness** includes any infection to which the carrying out of work is a significant contributing factor, for example an infection that can be linked to providing treatment to a person or coming into contact with human blood or body substances.

A **dangerous incident** is also notifiable under the legislation. *Dangerous incidents include:*

- *an uncontrolled escape, spillage or leakage of a substance*
- *an uncontrolled implosion, explosion or fire*
- *an uncontrolled escape of gas or steam*
- *an uncontrolled escape of a pressurised substance*
- *electric shock*
- *the fall or release from a height of any plant, substance or thing*
- *the collapse, overturning, failure or malfunction of, or damage to, any plant that is required to be authorised for use in accordance with the regulations*
- *the collapse or partial collapse of a structure*

- *the collapse or failure of an excavation or of any shoring supporting an excavation*
 - *the inrush of water, mud or gas in workings, in an underground excavation or tunnel*
- The nominated supervisor must notify Return to Work SA by telephone or in writing (including by email) as soon as possible after the injury, illness or incident. Records of the incident must be kept for at least 5 years from the date that the incident is notified. The nominated supervisor must ensure the site where the incident occurred is left undisturbed as much as possible until an inspector arrives or as directed by Return to Work SA.*

When a serious accident/dangerous incident occurs at RPCC, educators will;

- assess the injury and administer emergency first aid and ensuring the injured person is kept comfortable and under adult supervision.
- organise for a second adult to inform the Nominated Supervisor, telephone for an ambulance (dial 000).
- contact the child's parents or the child/educator's emergency contact person to advise them of the incident and that an ambulance is on its way to RPCC. If they are unable to meet the ambulance at RPCC, ask them to meet the ambulance at the hospital.
- an educator known to the child will accompany the child to the hospital if the parent is unable to do so (or if the adult wants an educator to accompany them). A copy of the child's *Enrolment Form* (or a *Staff Details Form*) PLUS, if possible, an *Accident/Injury Record* will be taken with the injured person
- assign a responsible educator to support and supervise educators in caring for the other children. Children may need to be kept in one area, e.g. a sleep room
- ensure that any contact or suspicion of contact with the injured person's blood or body fluids has been appropriately dealt with.
- a full report of the accident detailing the incident and the action taken will be recorded on an *Incident Record* and a copy given to the parent, (as well as on a *Return to Work report form* for an educator).

Reporting Obligations

- The Nominated Supervisor or Team Leader of the room involved will notify Regulatory Authority, EECSRSB within 24 hours and in some cases RPCC's insurers and provide both with a copy of the *Accident/Injury Record*, and/or the *Incident Record*, or fill out any other forms deemed necessary (e.g. Return to Work SA and Safe Work SA)

Failure to notify Safe Work SA of a serious/dangerous incident will incur penalties as stated the Work Health and Safety Act 2012 – Part 3, Section 38.

A person who conducts a business or undertaking must ensure that Safe Work SA is notified immediately after becoming aware that a notifiable incident arising out of the conduct of the business or undertaking has occurred. The notice must be given in accordance with this section and by the fastest possible means by telephone or in writing (email).

The telephone number for SafeWork SA is 1300 365 255.

Emergency number is 1800 777 209

A person giving notice by telephone must;

(a) give the details of the incident requested by the regulator (SafeWork SA);
and

(b) if required by the regulator, give a written notice of the incident within 48 hours of that requirement being made.

A written notice must be in a form, or contain the details, approved by the regulator.

If the regulator receives a notice by telephone and a written notice is not required, the regulator must give the person conducting the business or undertaking—

(a) details of the information received; or

(b) an acknowledgement of receiving the notice.

A person conducting a business or undertaking must keep a record of each notifiable incident for at least 5 years from the day that notice of the incident is given to the regulator under this section. Failure to do this will incur penalties as stated the Work Health and Safety Act 2012 – Part 3, Section 38.

Preservation of Incident Site

- The Nominated Supervisor or senior educator of a workplace at which a notifiable incident has occurred must ensure so far as is reasonably practicable, that the ‘site’ where the incident occurred is not disturbed until an inspector arrives at the site or any earlier time that an inspector directs.

Maximum penalty: SAFE WORK SA

(a) in the case of an individual—\$10 000;

(b) in the case of a body corporate—\$50 000.

- In number (1) (above) a reference to a ‘site’ includes any plant, substance, structure or thing associated with the notifiable incident.

- Number (1) (above) does not prevent any action—

(a) to assist an injured person; or

(b) to remove a deceased person; or

(c) that is essential to make the site safe or to minimise the risk of a further notifiable incident; or

(d) that is associated with a police investigation; or

(e) for which an inspector or the regulator (Safe Work SA) has given permission.

Other Sources

Safe Work Australia Legislative Fact Sheets First Aiders

Safe Work Australia First Aid in the Workplace Code of Practice

Links to other policies

Emergency Management and Evacuation

Hazard reporting

Infectious diseases

Workplace safety

Educators

Ongoing training

First aid

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually.

Last reviewed: February 2024

Date for next review: February 2025