

Infectious Diseases



Policy

In order to create a safe environment free from infection for educators, families and other children, sick children will not be permitted to attend the Centre.

Background

An infectious disease is a [sickness](#) caused by a [pathogen \(germ\)](#), such as [bacteria](#), [viruses](#), or a fungus that can be passed from one child to another. The pathogen can move from one person to another through air, food, water, blood, or physical touch. To prevent the likelihood of the spread of any such disease Janelle Street Centre will comply with Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011 concerning such diseases.

Practices

Exclusion will be warranted if the child has any of the following infectious diseases/symptoms or any other disease identified as infectious, as stated in Staying Healthy in Child Care 5th Edition. Exclusion periods will be as indicated on the NSW Department of Health website.

- High Temperature 38.5° (new thermometers)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhoea
- Conjunctivitis
- Productive cough (mucus)
- Tonsillitis
- Measles
- Impetigo
- Mumps
- Pertussis (Whooping Cough)
- Covid 19
- Severe skin rash/infection
- Chicken Pox
- Diphtheria
- Infectious Hepatitis
- Excessive discharge from eyes, ears, nose
- Rubella (German Measles)
- Throat/Chest Infections
- Ringworm
- Scabies
- Hand/Foot and Mouth Disease

If the Centre has 2 cases of a disease within 2 days we will display a sign on both entrance doors displaying the signs, symptoms and first aid required. This will identify the incubation period which the Centre will abide by. Diseased children must be kept away from the Centre for this period. The sign will be taken down if there are no new cases for one week after the sign has been posted at Janelle Street Centre.

If there is an outbreak of an immunisable disease, the Public Health Unit at Tamworth Hospital, Hunter New England Health must be notified by telephone on (02) 67648000 (AH 02 4924 6477) according to the Public Health Act 1991 and the regulations under that act, including all requirements for mandatory reporting.

All educators are to abide by and be familiar with the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011.

Janelle Street Centre has a 24 hour exclusion policy for general illnesses (please refer to *Policy 7.1 Child Health*) however some infectious diseases have Public Health regulated specific and/or longer exclusion periods which will be enforced.

Sources

- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011
- <https://raisingchildren.net.au> (accessed October 25, 2023)
- Staying Healthy in Child Care 5th Edition

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