



## Dealing with Infectious Diseases Policy

At Happy Valley Kindergarten we promote a safe and healthy environment. One of the best ways of promoting this is to work co-operatively with the families to reduce the spread of infectious diseases. Infections are common in children, however we all need to have to be aware of the ways to minimise the spread of disease in our community. We all have responsibilities!

The procedure outlines:

- Parent and Staff responsibilities
- Basic information on when to keep your child at home
- Periods of exclusion for infectious diseases

### **Parent responsibilities:**

If your child is not well and will not be attending the centre, please ring and let the staff know. If it is an infectious disease such as chicken pox, measles etc, we can then alert other parents to be on the lookout so precautions can be taken to prevent spread of disease. Refer to the basic information sheet for guidelines for keeping your child at home.

### **Staff responsibilities:**

Children who arrive at the centre and are obviously unwell will be sent home immediately. Unfortunately if a child becomes unwell during the session, we do not have a suitable area to care for him/her, and/or staff members to assist them on a full time basis. Parents/Caregivers will be contacted straight away to come and collect the child. (If a parent is unable to be contacted, the alternative contact person named on the enrolment form will be called.)

**Parents are notified of any case of infectious disease on the parent notice board and fact sheet from “ You’ve got What” resource is displayed and copies are made available for parents.**

### **Things we encourage:**

- All families to immunize their children and keep their record card up to date. This will help to prevent serious diseases (e.g. Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Measles, Mumps, Polio)
- Hand washing before preparing of and eating food, after wiping noses and using the toilet.
- Staff to wear gloves when handling all body fluid, such as blood, faeces and vomit.
- All children to be toilet trained. We realise accidents will happen but if possible children will need to be independent in the toilet.