

## ▲ BATHING CHILDREN

### ▲ NQS

**Element 2.1.:** Each child's health and physical activity is supported and promoted.

**Element 2.1.1:** Each child's wellbeing and comfort is provided for, including appropriate opportunities to meet each child's need for sleep, rest and relaxation.

**Element 2.2.1** At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard

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

**Education and Care Services National Regulations:** 77; 87-88; 168 (2): (b), (d), (h).

### ▲ PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that children are bathed in a safe environment and only when deemed necessary.

### ▲ POLICY

It is the policy of the Centre to ensure the privacy of children attending the Centre, to only bath children under the following circumstances:

- When a child has vomited on him or herself,
- When a child has chemicals on his or her skin,
- When a child has received burns,
- When a child has severe diarrhoea and
- When a child has fever.

### ▲ PROCEDURES

When it is determined that it is necessary to bath or shower a child the following procedure will apply:

- Educators will prepare all necessary equipment such as towels and dry clothes for the child.
- The child will be undressed, but where possible the child's underwear should remain on.
- Educators will ensure they are positioned on a non-slip surface and standing in a

well-balanced position that allows for free and easy movement.

- The cold water tap will be turned on first and then the hot water added until the desired temperature is reached; the water is to be lukewarm; only ten to fifteen (10 to 15) centimeters is required in the bath.
- If showering a child over the age of two (2) years, a chair may be required for them so sit on.
- Educators will stay close to the child at all times with one hand on their shoulder to ensure they do not fall or slip.
- If the bathroom has a door then it is to be remained open at all times.
- The child will be reassured and comforted at all times.
- Educators will dry and redress the child and,
- The bath will be emptied of all water and cleaned with detergent and warm water.

### ▲ SOURCES AND FURTHER READING

- National Health and Medical Research Council "Staying Healthy: Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services (5th Edition)"  
[http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/\\_files\\_nhmrc/publications/attachments/ch55\\_staying\\_healthy\\_5th\\_edition\\_updated\\_130701\\_0.pdf](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/_files_nhmrc/publications/attachments/ch55_staying_healthy_5th_edition_updated_130701_0.pdf)

### ▲ ASSOCIATED POLICIES

- Code of Ethics
- Child Safety and Wellbeing
- Hygiene and Infection Control
- Sickness and exclusion

### ▲ POLICY REVIEW

- The Centre (together with educators/carers) will review this policy every 12 months.
- The Approved Provider and Centre Director ensure that at all times all educators maintain and implement this policy and its procedures.
- Families are encouraged to collaborate with the service to review the policy and procedures.

- **Last review:** 27.06.2023
- **Next review due:** 27.06.2024