

MEDICAL CONDITIONS POLICY

To support children's wellbeing and manage specific healthcare needs, allergy or relevant medical condition, REED will work in accordance with the Education and Care Services National Regulations to ensure health related policies and procedures are implemented. We aim to take every reasonable precaution to protect children's health and safety by explicitly adhering to individual medical management and risk management plans and responding to any emergency situation should they arise.

PURPOSE

The Education and Care Services National Regulations requires approved providers to ensure services have policies and procedures in place for medical conditions. We aim to efficiently respond to and manage the medical conditions, health care needs or allergies of children and staff ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children, staff, families, and visitors at REED Services.

SCOPE

This policy applies to the Approved Provider, Nominated Supervisors, Educators, Staff, students, volunteers, children and Families.

EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL LAW AND REGULATIONS (WA)

| S. 165 | Offence to inadequately supervise children | R.91 | Medical conditions policy to be provided to parents |
|-----------------|---|-------------|---|
| S. 167 | Offence relating to protection of children from harm and hazards | R.92 | Medication record |
| S.172 | Failure to display prescribed information | R.93 | Administration of medication |
| S. 174 | Offence to fail to notify certain circumstances to Regulatory Authority | R.94 | Exception to authorisation requirement—anaphylaxis or asthma emergency |
| R.12 | Meaning of a serious incident | R.95 | Procedure for administration of medication |
| R.85 | Incident, injury, trauma and illness policies and procedures | R.136 | First Aid qualifications |
| R.86 | Notification to parent of incident, injury, trauma or illness | R.162 | Health information to be kept in enrolment record |
| R.87 | Incident, injury, trauma and illness record | R.168 | Education and care services must have policies and procedures |
| R.89 | First aid kits | R.170 | Policies and procedures are to be followed |
| R.90 | Medical Conditions Policy | R.173(2)(f) | Prescribed information to be displayed- a notice stating that a child who has been diagnosed as at risk of anaphylaxis is enrolled at the service |
| R. 90(1)(iv) | Medical Conditions Communication Plan | R.175 | Prescribed information to be notified to Regulatory Authority |

THE APPROVED PROVIDER WILL ENSURE:

Compliance with the Education and Care Services National Law and Regulations. Enrolment forms will identify specific health care needs, allergies, or medical conditions, and families will be provided access to the service's Medical Conditions Policy on enrolment/orientation





NOMINATED SUPERVISOR WILL ENSURE:

That no child with a medical condition attends the service without a medical management plan from their medical practitioner and prescribed medication for life-threatening conditions like asthma, anaphylaxis, or diabetes. They will develop risk minimisation and communication plans in consultation with families on enrolment. The Nominated Supervisor will inform educators of children with specific medical conditions and seek support for any additional training required. They will ensure at least one staff member will always have current first aid qualifications, including emergency asthma and anaphylaxis training.

EDUCATORS AND OTHER STAFF WILL:

Follow this policy, related medical condition procedures and any medical management plans, informing their direct supervisor of any barriers to implementation and family communications. Educators will adhere to any medical management plans and support the development and review of risk minimisation and communication plans.

FAMILIES WILL:

Provide accurate information about their child's health needs, allergies, medical conditions, and medication requirements on the enrolment form, ensuring it is fully completed. They will submit a medical management plan on enrolment and collaborate with the service to create a risk minimisation and communication plan that will be reviewed as required. Families will be responsible for supplying any required medications and authorisations and notifying the service of any changes to the child's medical needs. An updated medical management plan is required on an annual basis.

ANAPHYLAXIS

Anaphylaxis is a severe, life-threatening allergic reaction that can occur rapidly after exposure to an allergen.

ASTHMA

Asthma is a chronic respiratory condition characterised by inflammation and narrowing of the airways, which can lead to difficulty in breathing, wheezing, coughing, and chest tightness. We understand that asthma can be triggered by various factors, including allergens, respiratory infections, exercise, and environmental pollutants.

DIABETES

Diabetes is a chronic metabolic condition characterised by elevated blood glucose levels due to the body's inability to produce or effectively use insulin. There are two main types of diabetes: Type 1, an autoimmune condition that typically develops in childhood or adolescence, and Type 2, which is often associated with lifestyle factors.

EPILEPSY

Epilepsy is a neurological condition characterized by recurrent seizures, which are caused by abnormal electrical activity in the brain.

All children with medical conditions at REED services require a current medical management action plan, signed by the child's registered medical practitioner and any prescribed medication to be provided by the family for the child while at the service, in line with the Administration of Medication Policy.





RELATED DOCUMENTS

| RESOURCES | POLICIES | PROCEDURES |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Short Term and Long Term | Acceptance and Refusal of Authorisations | Administration of Medication Procedure |
| Medication Form | Policy | |
| Authorisation to Display | Administration of Medication Policy | |
| Medical Management Plan | Child Safe Environment Policy | |
| Medical Communication Plan | Emergency and Evacuation Policy | |
| Medical Conditions Register | Enrolment Policy | |
| Medical Risk Minimisation Plan | Excursion/ Incursion Policy | |
| | Health and Safety Policy | |
| | Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy | |
| | Nutrition Food Safety Policy | |

SOURCE

Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. (2025). <u>Guide to the National Quality Framework</u>
Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority (ACECQA). 2021. <u>Policy and Procedure Guidelines</u>. <u>Dealing with Medicals in Children Policy Guidelines</u>.

 $Australian\ society\ of\ clinical\ immunology\ and\ allergy.\ ASCIA.\ \underline{https://www.allergy.org.au/hp/anaphylaxis/ascia-action-planfor-anaphylaxis}$

Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics. (2016).

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010. (Amended 2023).

Education and Care Services National Regulations. (Amended 2023).

Federal Register of Legislation Privacy Act 1988.

National Health and Medical Research Council. (2024). <u>Staying Healthy: preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services (6th Ed.)</u>. NHMRC. Canberra.

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004.

Western Australian Legislation Education and Care Services National Law (WA) Act 2012

Western Australian Legislation Education and Care Services National Regulations (WA) Act 2012

REVIEW

| POLICY REVIEWED | MODIFICATIONS | NEXT PLANNED REVIEW DATE |
|-----------------|---|-----------------------------|
| August 2025 | Modification of template Revision of content (succinct and explicit) | August 2027 |

