

7.8 (d) Hygiene Practices – Nose Wiping Policy

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| Policy number: 7.8 (d) |
| Date last reviewed: February 2025 |
| Reviewed by: Child Care Team |

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| This policy relates to | |
| National Quality Standards Early Childhood Education & Care | 2.1 Health, 2.1.1 Well being and comfort, 2.1.2 Health practices and procedures |

Purpose

To minimise the risks and spread of infectious diseases.

Policy

It is recommended practice for educators to wash hands every time after wiping a child's (or your own) nose:

- Use tissues and dispose of tissues in a covered bin. Ensure adults and children wash their hands after nose wiping;
- Washing your hands after every time you wipe a child's nose will reduce the spread of germs. If you cannot wash your hands after every nose wipe, use an alcohol-based hand rub;
- It is not necessary to wear gloves when wiping a child's nose. If you do wear gloves, you must remove gloves and wash your hands or use an alcohol-based hand rub afterwards.

Educators are encouraged to engage with and actively involve children in performing the task. Work toward teaching children to learn to wipe their nose and positively encourage their efforts as part of learning self-help skills.

Relevant Legislation

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

Key Resources

The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne: Childcare and Children's Health Vol 9 No 2 May 2006
Handwashing and Nose Wiping

http://www.rch.org.au/emplibrary/ecconnections/CCH_Vol9_No2_May2006.pdf

http://www.rch.org.au/ecconnections/publications/index.cfm?doc_id=11283

The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne: Childcare and Children's Health Vol 11 No 3 (2008)
Hygiene and Infection Control

http://www.rch.org.au/emplibrary/ecconnections/CCH_Vol_11_No3_Sept_2008.pdf

http://www.rch.org.au/ecconnections/publications/index.cfm?doc_id=11283

National Health and Medical Research Council: (2006) *Staying Healthy in Child Care - Preventing Infectious Diseases in Child Care 5th Edition*

<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/>

<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/ch55>

<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/subject/General%20Health%20Information>

Implementing Good Practice in Infection Control, Centre for Community Child Health, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne 2000

Improving Infection Control in Child Care Services, Centre for Community Child Health, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne 1999