

**TAMAITI HEALTH POLICY**

**RATIONALE**

Mātua and kaiako share the responsibility for creating a healthy centre environment, which will protect and nurture tamariki. Exclusion of tamariki with infectious diseases from early childhood centres is necessary where there is potential for further spread of infection.

Flying Kiwi Preschool wishes to keep tamariki and adults safe from infection by clearly stating under what circumstances a tamaiti should be excluded. Exclusion is at the centre manager's discretion.

**TE** **WHĀRIK**

***Well-being/******Mana******atua******-******Strand:***The health and wellbeing of the child are protected and nurtured.

**PROCEDURES**

* If mātua have concerns that a tamaiti may be unwell, and unsure if their tamaiti should attend, we encourage mātua to ring the centre and discuss signs or symptoms with kaiako.
* Information should be shared with kaiako upon arrival at the centre. This means kaiako will be vigilant and alert to any changes in behaviour, or signs or symptoms of illness, and can respond to tamariki needs promptly.
* Individual health plans will be written in consultation with mātua for tamariki who suffer from Asthma, Epilepsy, specific allergies, or other medical conditions.
* A tamaiti prescribed antibiotics for any illness should not return until at least 24 hours after treatment has started or at the centre manager's discretion. Taking prescribed antibiotics does not automatically ensure your tamaiti is well enough to resume attendance. Please refer to Medicines Policy.
* Flying Kiwi Preschool reserves the right to request a medical certificate from a health professional before allowing a tamaiti to return following illness.
* If a whānau member (mātua/sibling or otherwise)is unwell and bringing a tamaiti who is well to the centre and there is a risk of spreading illness within the centre, a plan can be put in place to support drop offs and pickups, such as meeting whānau at the entrance to the centre or by their car.
* A tamaiti suffering from any of the following symptoms will be required to leave the centre. If a mātua is unavailable or unable to remove their tamaiti within the hour or as needed, the emergency contact person listed on the tamaiti enrolment form will be contacted.
* Tamariki who are ill and waiting to be collected will remain in one space and be monitored and supervised closely.
* When Flying Kiwi Preschool has many children with the same symptoms in a short period of time, they will put out a health alert notice to mātua with information of symptoms and exclusions period.
* When there is an outbreak (over 15% of the roll ill), Flying Kiwi Preschool will contact Regional Public Health for advice and support.

**Reasons** **to** **exclude** **a** **tamaiti** **from** **Flying Kiwi Preschool:**

* The illness prevents the tamaiti from participating comfortably in the programme provided. This can include the following behaviours: no interest in play, have little energy, cry easily, are irritable or need constant one on one with a teacher.
* The tamaiti has any of the following conditions: fever (38 degrees Celsius and over), persistent crying, difficulty breathing, persistent coughing, persistent runny nose, or other signs of possible illness.
* If a child has persistent cold symptoms, such as a cough, runny nose or sneezing, the person responsible can request that they see a medical professional such as a doctor before returning to the centre. It is important that the doctor is informed that the child attends an early childhood service. The doctor can then determine if their symptoms are related to an infectious illness or another condition (such as hay fever) and if they pose an infection risk to other children and staff. Children are welcome to return again if they are not infectious and are able to participate comfortably in the programme.
* The illness results in greater care needed than Flying Kiwi Preschool can reasonably provide without compromising the health and safety of the other tamariki.
* No tamaiti with diarrhoea should attend Flying Kiwi Preschool. Tamariki must be symptom free for 48 hours and must have had at least one normal bowel motion before returning to Flying Kiwi Preschool,
* Public Health Service advises that if a tamaiti has a fever that is 38 degrees Celsius or over they should not return to the centre for 24 hours.
* No tamaiti with vomiting should attend Flying Kiwi Preschool. Tamariki must be symptom free for 48 hours and must be able to keep food down for those 48 hours.
* Rash with fever or behaviour change - until a doctor has determined that the illness is not a communicable disease.
* Tuberculosis - until a doctor or the Public Health Service advises that the tamaiti is non-infectious
* For some vaccine preventable diseases, there is a requirement to exclude unimmunised tamariki who have had contact with a case of the disease. This applies to Measles, Diphtheria

and Whooping Cough, and would be arranged on the advice of the Medical Officer of Health.

* A list of further infectious diseases information and exclusion details is listed at the conclusion of this policy. This chart is taken directly from the Ministry of Health website (last revised November 2020).
* Public Health Service exclusion guidelines will be followed for any conditions not listed above. They are contactable on (04) 5709002.
* A child is involved in an injury that is considered serious, for example, a head injury. Mātua will be informed immediately and the person responsible can request that the child is collected and seen by a medical professional before returning to Flying Kiwi Preschool. The tamaiti will be monitored closely and an ambulance called if necessary.
* Centre managers will use their discretion to make decisions in the best interests of all tamariki and kaiako present in the service.

**LINKS** **TO:**

* Medicines Policy
* Ministry of Health List of Infectious Diseases

**Date** **approved:**

**Review** **date:**