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INDIVIDUAL PROCEDURES INCLUDED:	
OTHER DOCUMENTS/ LEGISLATION TO BE REFERENCED:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Wellbeing Policy • Health and Safety Procedures

Purpose

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle (the Diocese) is committed to the delivery of services consistent with the principles and standards detailed in the resource Integrity in the Service of the Church and ensuring that these services support the health and wellbeing of children in our care.

Any infection has the potential to impact significantly on the health and wellbeing of children in our care.

Policy

St Nicholas will establish and implement infection control procedures to minimise risk to the health and wellbeing of children in our care.

Where St Nicholas' staff identify any child with an infectious disease families will be notified and affected children will be excluded from the service until such times as a professional medical practitioner is able to confirm that the child is no longer infected.

In the case of a Pandemic, as identified by NSW Health, we will create a pandemic action plan in the response to infection control

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy:

- Infection means any transmittable disease that has the potential to impact on the health and wellbeing of children.
- Infection control measures include hand washing, practices for the handling of food acknowledged as minimising the risk of spoilage or illness to persons, immunisation of children, removal of human and other waste to minimise contact with humans and an awareness of common symptoms of child illnesses.
- Confirmation by a professional medical practitioner means a medical certificate from a medical practitioner, licensed to operate within the state of NSW and to issue such a certificate.

Scope

The policy relates to all employees (paid or unpaid) of St Nicholas and families of children in the care of St Nicholas.

Policy Context

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Health and Well Being Policy and the Health and Safety Procedures.

Relationships to Standards

Std 2: Children's Health and Safety

Std 3: Physical Environment

Std 6: Collaborative Partnerships with Families and Community

Responsibilities

The Nominated Supervisor/Director must ensure that reasonable steps are taken to prevent the spread of infectious diseases at the service.

The Nominated Supervisor/Director is responsible for conducting routine checks to ensure staff compliance with the policy.

The Nominated Supervisor/Director must ensure that a parent or an authorised emergency contact of each child being cared for by the service is notified of any occurrence of an infectious disease as soon as practicable.

The Nominated Supervisor/Director must ensure that the Regulatory Authority is notified in the appropriate timeframe

The Executive managers are responsible for the review and implementation of actions to ensure the health and wellbeing of children.

St Nicholas	Name of policy: Infection Control Policy	Page 2
Issue Date: 2015	Review Date: April 2022	Document Owner: CEO

All employees (paid or unpaid) are responsible for the health and wellbeing of children and reporting of any breaches in the policy.

All families are responsible for communication of health status to service staff so that the health and wellbeing of all children in the care of St Nicholas are maintained.

Legislative/Professional Guidelines

Education and Care Service National Law Act 2010

Education and Care Service National Regulations 2018

Workplace Health and Safety Act 2011

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

School Exclusion Table, which is based on Schedule 7 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009.

Department of Health & Ageing - National Immunisation Program Schedule

St Nicholas	Name of policy: Infection Control Policy	Page 3
Issue Date: 2015	Review Date: April 2022	Document Owner: CEO