

Early Learning

Administration of First Aid Policy

Policy Statement

Uniting Early Learning is committed to:

- providing a safe and healthy environment for all children, educators, staff and others attending the service;
- providing a clear set of guidelines in relation to the administration of first aid at the service;
- ensuring that the service has the capacity to deliver current approved first aid, as required.

Executive Summary

First aid can save lives and prevent minor injuries or illnesses from becoming major ones. The capacity to provide prompt basic first aid is particularly important in the context of an early childhood service where staff have a duty of care and obligation to assist children who are injured, become ill or require support with administration of medication.

Ensuring prescribed educator-to-child ratios and active and adequate supervision is met at all times is an important aspect of protecting children at the service from harm and hazards that are likely to cause injury. It is also essential that the service keeps up to date with any changes in procedures for administration of first aid, ensuring that all educators are informed of these changes.

As a demonstration of duty of care and best practice, Uniting will encourage all Early Learning educators to have an approved and current first aid qualification; anaphylaxis and emergency asthma management training. To meet legislative requirements, an educator is to be appointed as the nominated first aid officer where there are 10 or more employees.

An induction process for all new staff, casual and relief staff must be in place that includes providing information on the location of first aid kits and specific first aid requirements.

Reporting procedures set out in the *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness policy* should be followed in the event that a child is ill, is involved in a medical emergency, or an incident at the service that results in injury or trauma.

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Current Environmental Context

It is also a requirement that employers have appropriate first aid arrangements in place, including first aid training, first aid kits and first aid facilities, to meet their obligations under the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004. Worksafe Victoria has developed a compliance code First aid in the workplace that provides guidance on how these obligations can be met.

An appropriate number of first aid kits that meet Australian Standards (refer to *Attachment 19b*) should be easily recognisable and readily accessible to adults. Kits should be checked regularly throughout the year to ensure they are fully stocked, and no products have expired (refer to and complete form 19.1). Safety signs showing the location of first aid kits should be clearly displayed, as well as a clearly displayed resuscitation flow chart. First aid kits should also be taken when leaving the service premises for excursions, regular outings or emergency evacuations

Attachment 19a: Responsibilities relating to the Administration of First Aid Policy

Attachment 19b: Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Contact Details

[Form 19.1: First Aid Kit Checklist](#)

[Form 19.2: First Aid Risk Assessment](#)

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Reference/Sources

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

Uniting Child Safety Policy – Uniting adopts the Uniting Church Australia National Child Safety Policy Framework, 2019 and the principles of this Policy Framework.

<i>Administration of Medication Policy</i>	<i>Anaphylaxis Appendix</i>
<i>Asthma Appendix</i>	<i>Hygiene and Infectious Diseases Policy</i>
<i>Dealing with Medical Conditions Policy</i>	<i>Diabetes Appendix</i>
<i>Emergency and Evacuation Policy</i>	<i>Epilepsy Appendix</i>
<i>Excursions, Regular Outings and Service Events Policy</i>	<i>Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy</i>
<i>Staffing Policy</i>	<i>Supervision of Children Policy</i>

- Ambulance Victoria: www.ambulance.vic.gov.au
- Ambulance Tasmania - DHHS <https://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/ambulance>
- Australian Red Cross: www.redcross.org
- Better Health Channel: www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au
- Children's Services Act 2019
- Children's Services Regulations 2020:
- Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010: Sections 167, 169
- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: Regulations 87, 89, 136, 137(1)(e), 168(2)(a), 245
- First aid in the workplace: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au
- First aid in the workplace: <https://www.worksafe.tas.gov.au/laws/codes-of-practice/first-aid-in-the-workplace>
- *National Quality Standard*, Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety
- St John Ambulance Australia (Vic/Tas): www.stjohnvic.com.au
- Tasmanian Licensing Standards for Centre Based Child Care, Class 5 (0-1years) October 2014, s2.4.
- Children's Services amendment Act 2019
- Children's Services Regulations 2020
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for COVID-19 Protocol – [Click here](#)
- COVID 19 Emergency Response and Business Continuity Plan: Containment protocols and targeted action in response to Suspected and Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 - [Click here](#)

Authorisation

This policy was adopted by Uniting Early Learning on: 15 December 2020

Review

This policy is to be reviewed by: 15 December 2022

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Attachment 19a: Responsibilities relating to the Administration of First Aid Policy

Approved Provider

- Ensure that every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children at the service from harm and hazards that are likely to cause injury.
- Assess the first aid requirements for the service (refer to *Form 19.1*).
- Endeavour to ensure all educators on the premises have current approved first aid qualifications, anaphylaxis and emergency asthma management training.
- Appoint an educator to be the **nominated first aid officer** (legislative requirement where there are 10 or more employees, but best practice regardless of number of employees).
- Provide and maintain an appropriate number of up-to-date, fully-equipped (refer to *Attachment 19b*) first aid kits that meet Australian Standards. The appropriate number of kits depends on the number of children in the service, the number of rooms and their proximity to each other, and distances from outdoor spaces.
- Ensure a risk assessment is conducted prior to an excursion to identify risks to health, safety, or wellbeing and specify how these risks will be managed and minimised (Refer to *Form 3.1 Excursion plan and risk assessment form*).
- Provide and maintain a portable first aid kit and ensure it is taken offsite for excursions and other activities.
- Ensure safety signs showing the location of first aid kits are clearly displayed.
 - Ensure signs and posters are prominently displayed at the service, reminding the service community of the measures that are necessary to stop the spread of COVID-19. including, how to wash your hands and the physical distancing requirements.
- Ensure a resuscitation flow chart is displayed in a prominent position in the indoor and outdoor environments of the service, for easy reference for all educators.
- Implement an induction process for all new staff, casual and relief staff that includes providing information on the location of first aid kits and specific first aid requirements.
- Ensure that staff are offered support and debriefing following a serious incident ([refer to Glossary](#)) requiring the administration of first aid. Refer to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) if required (refer to Attachment 19c)

Responsible Person

- Ensure that the prescribed educator-to-child ratios are met at all times.
- Follow appropriate reporting procedures set out in the *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Policy* in the event that a child is ill, or is involved in a medical emergency or an incident at the service that results in injury or trauma.
- ensure adequate and appropriate PPE, hand sanitiser, thermometers, cleaning products and guidelines are available that meet changing health risks in the community
- Ensure that first aid training details are recorded on each staff member's record and demonstrate currency.
- Ensure details and practice dates of CPR and auto-injector are documented and recorded on staff record.
- Keep up to date with any changes in procedures for administration of first aid and responses to pandemics. Ensure that all educators are informed of these changes.

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- Advise families that a list of first aid and other health products used by the service is available for their information, and that first aid kits can be inspected.
- Audit First Aid kits on an annual basis.
- Ensure that all educators approved first aid qualifications, anaphylaxis management training and emergency asthma management training are current, and approved.
- Notify the Approved Provider prior to the expiration of educator's first aid, asthma or anaphylaxis accredited training.

• Educator

- Maintain current approved first aid qualifications, and qualifications in anaphylaxis management and emergency asthma management as required.
- Implement appropriate first aid procedures when necessary.
- Ensure parents are informed of any first aid administered to a child.
- Practice CPR and administration of an auto-injector at least annually.
- Ensure that all children are adequately supervised (refer to the *Supervision of Children Policy*) while providing first aid, and provide comfort for a child involved in an incident or suffering trauma.
- Ensure that the details of any incident requiring the administration of first aid are recorded on the *Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Record*.
- Ensure the Approved Provider is notified of any serious incident or medical emergency that requires first aid for reporting process.
- Monitor the contents of all first aid kits and arrange with the Approved Provider for replacement of stock, including when the use-by date has been reached.
- Dispose of out-of-date materials appropriately.

Parents

- Provide the required information for the service's medication record.
- Provide written consent (via the enrolment record) for service staff to administer first aid and to call an ambulance, if required.
- Be contactable, either directly or through emergency contacts listed on the child's enrolment record, in the event of an incident requiring the administration of first aid.

Note: Volunteers and students, while at the service, are responsible for following this policy and its procedures.

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Attachment 19b - Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Contact Details

Support for our people – new Employee

Assistance Program provider

Uniting now has a new Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provider, Converge International.

EAP is a free service offered to all Uniting employees and their families which provides up to three sessions with an EAP counsellor. The counsellor will provide counselling or coaching support for work or personal issues.

For more information on how to access the EAP service and what is involved in this strictly confidential service, please contact *Converge International* on **1300 687 327**.

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