

## DENTAL HEALTH POLICY

Related Quality Area	QA2: Health and Safety
Related Policies	Incident, injury, accident and trauma Hand Hygiene Policy Nutrition and Food Safety Policy

### PURPOSE

Nightcliff Family Centre (the Centre) aims to promote children's general wellbeing by creating an environment that supports healthy dental and oral health habits and practices that can be maintained throughout the child's life. The Centre provides food and drinks with consideration to the sugar content and ensure that drinking water is always available.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to children, families, staff, management, and visitors of the Centre.

### IMPLEMENTATION

#### Management/nominated supervisor/ responsible person will:

- Always ensure children have access to safe drinking water.
- Ensure the routine incorporates drinking water during and after meal times.
- Periodically investigate if a visit by a dental professional can be arranged so that children and families can learn correct brushing techniques and oral care.
- Provide dental care information to families via the brochure display.
- Provide a nutritious menu of recommended vegetables, fruits and dairy products.
- Provide information to families about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS)

#### Educators will:

- Provide opportunities to discuss dental health education and food and drink choices to support dental health with children.
- Provide resources to support dental health learning such as books, posters, 'giant' teeth and toothbrushes, etc.
- Pay attention to meal and snack times to ensure healthy food is being eaten.
- Encourage children to drink water after meals to assist with removing bacteria. If possible, staff will encourage children at the age of 3 and above to swish and swallow the water.
- Encourage children to drink water through the day.
- Give children bottles before they go to bed.
- Promote Dental Health Week with children and families each year

## DENTAL EMERGENCIES

It is important for Educators to be aware of how to manage dental accidents and emergencies. Our Educators/Management will:

- Complete an Injury Form and inform the parent/guardian - dental accidents are treated as an emergency.
- Do not reinsert the tooth back into the socket, baby teeth are not usually placed back into the gum.
- Gently rinse it in milk to remove blood or tooth fragments, wrap in cling wrap or store in a clean container.
- Encourage the family to seek dental advice.

## CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT/REFLECTION

Our *Dental Health Policy* will be reviewed on an annual basis in consultation with children, families, staff, educators and management.

## REVIEW

POLICY REVIEWED BY	Ailing Teav Olive Asis	Educator Educator	February 2022
POLICY REVIEWED	FEBRUARY 2022	NEXT REVIEW DATE	FEBRUARY 2024
MODIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No changes or Additional information added</li> <li>• Sources checked for currency</li> <li>• Spell check</li> </ul>		
POLICY REVIEWED BY	Judy Rondon	Director	February 2024
POLICY REVIEWED	FEBRUARY 2024	NEXT REVIEW DATE	FEBRUARY 2026
MODIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the preschool room the children and families are urged to bring each child their own toothbrush and storage container to keep at the centre.</li> <li>• Promote Dental Health Week with children and families each year.</li> <li>• Sources checked for currency</li> <li>• Spell check</li> </ul>		
POLICY REVIEWED BY	Judy Rondon Archana Serva Anu Thapa	Director and Educators	February 2025
POLICY REVIEWED	FEBRUARY 2025	NEXT REVIEW DATE	FEBRUARY 2027
MODIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We cancelled this practise due to children using other children's brushes, which is a potential risk for their health. "In the preschool room, the children and families are urged to bring each child their own toothbrush and storage container to keep at the centre.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>		