



INFECTIOUS DISEASES POLICY

PURPOSE

Kilkenny Primary School OSHC is committed to reducing the spread of infectious disease and protecting the health, safety, wellbeing and best interests of children.

Use effective hygiene and infection-control practices

Respond promptly when children or staff become unwell

Follow current South Australian public health exclusion advice

Meet ACECQA, National Quality Framework and Education Standards Board requirements

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

Children attending Before School Care, After School Care, Vacation Care and pupil free days

Families

Educators and staff

OSHC Director and Responsible Persons

Approved Provider / Governing Council

Volunteers, students and visitors

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD

Quality Area 2 – Children’s Health and Safety

2.1.2 Health practices and procedures – effective illness and hygiene practices are implemented

2.2 Safety – children are protected from harm and hazards

2.2.1 Supervision – unwell children remain adequately supervised

2.2.2 Incident and emergency management – illness and outbreaks are managed effectively

Quality Area 7 – Governance and Leadership

7.1.2 Management systems support compliance, communication and record keeping





LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

Kilkenny Primary School OSHC operates in South Australia and complies with:

Education and Early Childhood Services (Registration and Standards) Act 2011 (SA),
incorporating the Education and Care Services National Law (South Australia)

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

Education and Early Childhood Services (Registration and Standards) Regulations 2025
(SA)

South Australian Public Health Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)

Relevant National Law and Regulations include:

Section 2A – safety, rights and best interests of children are the paramount consideration

Sections 172 and 174 – display and notification requirements

Regulations 77 and 85–88 – health, hygiene, illness and infectious diseases

Regulation 103 – premises, furniture and equipment must be safe and clean

Regulations 168 and 170–175 – policies, procedures, display and notifications

DEFINITION – INFECTIOUS DISEASE

An infectious disease is an illness caused by microorganisms such as viruses, bacteria, fungi or parasites that can spread between people or through contaminated objects, surfaces, food, water or the environment.

Some infectious diseases require exclusion from education and care settings

Exclusion and public health action will be based on current SA Health advice





SERVICE POLICIES

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF INFECTION

KPS OSHC will:

- Promote effective hand washing and cough/sneeze etiquette
- Use gloves and other PPE when contact with blood or body fluids is possible
- Clean high-touch surfaces, toilets, shared equipment and contaminated items appropriately
- Follow safe food handling and kitchen hygiene procedures
- Maintain ventilation and use outdoor spaces where practical
- Support children to develop independent hygiene practices
- Use current SA Health and NHMRC guidance when extra precautions are required

WHEN A CHILD BECOMES UNWELL AT OSHC

Educators will:

- Notify the Responsible Person or OSHC Director
- Assess the child and provide first aid where required
- Keep the child comfortable and supervised away from the main group where practical
- Protect the child's privacy, dignity and emotional wellbeing
- Contact the parent/carer or authorised emergency contact for prompt collection where needed
- Call 000 if urgent medical assistance is required
- Follow the child's medical management plan where relevant
- Complete required illness or incident records and clean contaminated areas
- Families will be notified of an incident, injury, trauma or illness as soon as **practicable and no later than 24 hours where Regulation 86 applies.**

EXCLUSION AND RETURN TO CARE

KPS OSHC will:

- Follow current SA Health minimum exclusion periods for childcare, preschool, school and work
- Exclude children or staff where required to reduce the spread of infection
- Follow additional advice from SA Health's Communicable Disease Control Branch where provided
- Allow return when the required exclusion period has ended and the person is well enough to safely participate
- Avoid blanket exclusion periods where SA Health provides condition-specific advice





SERVICE POLICIES

Gastroenteritis

- Current SA Health exclusion advice will be followed
- For most gastroenteritis, exclusion continues until there has been no diarrhoea for at least 24 hours
- Where norovirus is known or suspected, a 48-hour exclusion period may apply

INFECTIOUS DISEASE OR OUTBREAK AT THE SERVICE

The Approved Provider, Director or Responsible Person will:

- Take reasonable steps to prevent further spread
- Notify parents/carers or authorised emergency contacts as soon as practicable, as required by Regulation 88
- Display the required notice without identifying the affected child or staff member
- Provide clear information about symptoms, exclusion requirements and precautions
- Increase cleaning, hygiene, ventilation or other controls where required
- Contact SA Health's Communicable Disease Control Branch for advice when required
- Notify the Education Standards Board when the outbreak or circumstance meets regulatory notification requirements
- Coordinate with Kilkenny Primary School where the same illness affects the school community, while maintaining OSHC's separate regulatory responsibilities
- Maintain confidentiality and only disclose personal health information where authorised or legally required
- Review the response after an outbreak and document any improvements

SA Health's Communicable Disease Control Branch can be contacted on 1300 232 272 when public health advice is required.

IMMUNISATION

KPS OSHC supports immunisation as an important public health measure.

Families are encouraged to keep their child's immunisation information current

Immunisation information may be considered during a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak

Children or staff may be required to remain away from the service where directed by SA Health





SERVICE POLICIES

APPROVED PROVIDER, DIRECTOR AND RESPONSIBLE PERSON RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ensure this policy and related procedures are implemented and available
- Ensure educators understand hygiene, exclusion and notification requirements
- Maintain suitable cleaning, PPE and infection-control supplies
- Ensure families receive timely infectious disease information
- Ensure required notices and ESB notifications are completed
- Seek SA Health advice when exclusion or outbreak requirements are unclear
- Maintain records securely and protect confidentiality
- Maintain safe staffing and supervision arrangements during staff illness

EDUCATORS AND STAFF WILL

- Follow this policy and current service procedures
- Use effective hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene and PPE
- Maintain active supervision when supporting an unwell child
- Report illness concerns promptly to the Responsible Person
- Support children calmly and respectfully
- Clean contaminated equipment and surfaces as directed
- Not attend work when exclusion requirements apply or when too unwell to safely work
- **Maintain confidentiality and complete required records**

FAMILIES WILL

- Keep children at home when they are unwell or an exclusion period applies
- Notify KPS OSHC promptly if their child is diagnosed with an infectious disease that may affect the service
- Follow SA Health exclusion and return-to-care advice
- Collect an unwell child promptly when requested
- Keep health, medical and emergency contact information current
- Follow public health directions relating to close contacts or vaccine-preventable disease exposure

CLEANING AND HYGIENE

- Routine cleaning schedules will cover high-touch areas, toilets and shared resources
- Visible dirt or body fluids will be cleaned before disinfecting where disinfection is required
- Blood, vomit, faeces and other body-fluid spills will be managed using appropriate PPE and cleaning procedures
- Soiled clothing will be securely bagged for collection by families
- Separate cleaning equipment will be used for toilets and food areas
- Cleaning frequency will increase during outbreaks where required





SERVICE POLICIES

RECORD KEEPING AND ASSESSMENT & RATING EVIDENCE

KPS OSHC will maintain:

- Required illness and incident records
- Family notification and infectious disease notice records
- Attendance records
- Cleaning records and checklists
- Staff induction and refresher training records
- Relevant SA Health or ESB correspondence and notifications
- Records of improvements made following an outbreak

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

This policy will be reviewed:

At least annually

Following an infectious disease outbreak or significant incident

When legislation, ACECQA, ESB or SA Health guidance changes

When service practice changes or improvement is identified

Feedback may be sought from children, families and staff.

Families will receive at least 14 days' notice of significant policy changes where required under Regulation 172.

REVIEW DETAILS

POLICY REVIEWED BY	Graziella Panazzolo	OSHC DIRECTOR	
POLICY REVIEWED	January 2026	NEXT REVIEW DATE	January 2027
MODIFICATIONS			
PREVIOUS MODIFICATIONS			

