



Purpose of the Policy:

Wonder Kidz believes that the health and safety of its stakeholders are paramount and aims to reduce the risk of incidents, accidents and injuries occurring. When these situations do occur, our team respond with a duty of care to deal with the incident, accident or injury appropriately, as guided by the active implementation of this policy.

In the event of an incident, injury, trauma or illness, the child's well-being is of the utmost importance. Staff members will act immediately to contain the situation to ensure the safety and well-being of all. First aid will be administered immediately by staff members to ensure the best outcome and medical assistance will be sought as required.

Definition of Incidents and Serious Incidents*

Incidents are those events that have the potential to

- Be a threat to the safety or wellbeing of the children and/or Team Members.
- Cause a complaint to be lodged.
- Result in the assistance of Emergency Services.
- Result in a press release.
- Result in notification to children's protective Services; or
- Have the potential for legal action or insurance claims.

**The definition of a serious incident is as stated in Regulation 12 of the Education and Care Service National Regulations (2011).*

Policy Objectives:

This policy is designed to set out the procedures that will be followed so that staff members clearly understand their responsibilities both during and after an incident.

This includes required documentation and reporting that must occur to both Wonder Kidz administration and the Regulatory Authority (Department of Education and Training).

Procedures:

- Wonder Kidz has a duty of care to all children enrolled in the program. Therefore, if a child is unwell, the parent/ guardian will be asked to keep the child at home. In the event a child becomes ill at the service, parents/ guardians will be telephoned, and they will be asked to pick up their child if it is necessary, in the interests of the health, safety or well-being of that child or other children and staff at the program, and it is important to minimise the spread of infection in the service.
- Children are to be adequately always supervised to ensure prompt attention in the case of an incident or the onset of an illness.
- First aid is administered as quickly and effectively as possible to prevent any serious harm or secondary issues. All staff members on duty are to ensure other children in the program are kept safe.

Reporting and Documentation:

- Incidents, illness, injuries, and trauma will be recorded in compliance with Incidents reporting as per NDIS.
- Incidents, illness, injuries, and trauma are recorded in as much detail as possible, using diagrams, if necessary, to back up the written report,

with the child's and families' privacy and confidentiality always maintained.

- All incidents, illnesses and injuries are to be reported to the Service Director immediately so that when they are approached by the family, they can discuss any details on the accident, incident, or injury with them.
- The Service Director is responsible for the parent/guardian to sign the Incident Report form and provide a copy of all documentation to them upon request by the end of the session.
- Due to confidentiality laws, the name of only the child for whom the incident report was written for, can be documented in the report. Therefore, the names of other children involved in an incident will not be released in a report. If during an incident a child or children are hurt or injured, a separate accident report for each child injured is to be filled out in addition to the incident report or reports. If more than one child is involved in an incident, then separate incident reports for each child involved in the incident should be completed.
- All staff members are obligated to report serious incidents to the relevant Regulator Authority. The National Regulations intend to ensure that regulatory authorities are notified of incidents that seriously compromise the health, safety, or well-being of children. The regulatory authority is then able to take appropriate action.

Management of Minor incidents, injury, trauma, or illness

In the case of a minor incident, injury, trauma or onset of illness, staff members will:

1. Assess the injury.
2. Attend to the child by staff with current approved first aid qualifications in first aid, asthma and anaphylaxis management training, will apply first aid as required.
3. In the event of a blood spill or contact with bodily fluids, staff will be required to follow the procedures outlined in the Wonder Kidz Infection Control Policy.
4. Monitor the injured/ill child and inform the team leader who is responsible to inform the Service Director of any changes in the child's condition
5. Notify the parent/guardian as soon as practicable, If the parent/guardian is not contacted at the time of the event, they will be informed about the incident when they arrive to collect the child. This is not to be later than 24 hours after the occurrence about the nature of the incident, injury, trauma, or illness.
6. As soon as is practicable, the staff will document the details of the incident, injury, trauma, or illness on the Incident Report record. This will include the following areas completed in full
 - Details of person completing this record
 - Child details
 - Incident details

- Action Taken
- Notifications: Time and date that the parent, guardian, or authorised nominee was notified of the occurrence (either by telephone during the program operations or on collection) or attempted to be notified.
- Parental acknowledgement: Team leader will ask the parent/guardian to sign this document on arrival to collect the child. The Parent/guardian will be given a copy of the record upon request.

Note that:

- Any children with injuries involving blood must always have the wound covered (if not; parents should be aware).
- No medication will be administered to children without the written permission of their parents/guardians or verbal permission from a medical practitioner.
- Any injuries to a child's head, face, neck or back must be reported via a phone call to their parents/guardians immediately. Text messages and voice messages are not appropriate in this instance but may be sent/left to ask for parents/guardians to phone the Service if they cannot be reached by phone.
- Parents /guardians will be notified of any other illnesses/injuries which are deemed to be more than minor, but which do not require professional treatment.
- Following a head injury or vomiting, an emergency procedure for dealing with serious injuries must be followed.

Serious Incident, injury, trauma, or illness

A serious injury is when an injury requires additional medical attention other than basic First Aid. When a serious accident that requires more than simple First Aid treatment occurs at a Wonder Kidz Service.

For the purposes of the definition of "serious incident" in section 5(1) of the Law, each of the following is prescribed as a serious incident:

(a) the death of a child:

- while that child is being educated and cared for by an education and care service; or
- following an incident occurring while that child was being educated and cared for by an education and care service.

(b) any incident involving serious injury or trauma to a child occurring while that child is being educated and cared for by an education and care service:

- which a reasonable person would consider required urgent medical attention from a registered medical practitioner; or
- which the child attended, or ought reasonably to have attended, a hospital; Example: A broken limb.

(c) any incident involving serious illness of a child occurring while that child is being educated and cared for by an education and care service for which the child attended, or ought reasonably to have attended, a hospital; Example: Severe asthma attack, seizure, or anaphylaxis reaction.

(d) any emergency for which emergency services attended.

(e) any circumstance where a child is being educated and cared for by an education and care service appears to be missing or cannot be accounted for; or appears to have been taken or removed from the education and care service premises in a manner that contravenes these Regulations; or

(iii) is mistakenly locked in or locked out of the education and care service premises or any part of the premises.

Management of Serious incident, injury, trauma, or illness

In the case of a serious incident, injury, trauma or onset of illness, staff members with the support of the team leader will:

1. Remember to stay calm, reassure, assess the situation, and seek assistance.
2. Attend to the child and the staff with current approved first aid qualifications in first aid, asthma, and anaphylaxis management training, and will apply first aid as required.
3. The team leader is to contact an ambulance immediately if the accident or injury requires more than the administration of basic First Aid.
4. Ensure that the injured child remains comfortable.
5. A designated staff member is to closely monitor the injured child, while it may be applicable to inform their Service Manager of any changes in the child's condition. Due to other children's safety, it may be necessary to bring the rest of the children together in a common area with low-risk activities.
6. In the event of a blood spill or contact with bodily fluids, staff will be required to follow the procedures outlined in the Wonder Kidz Infection Control Policy.
7. Monitor the injured/ill child and inform the Service Director of any changes in the child's condition.
8. Notify the parent/guardian as soon as practicable, If the parent/guardian is not contacted at the time of the event, they will be informed about the incident when they arrive to collect the child. This is not to be later than

24 hours after the occurrence regarding the nature of the incident, injury, trauma, or illness.

9. As soon as practicable, staff members will document the details of the incident, injury, trauma, or illness on the Wonder Kidz Incident Report record. This will include the following areas completed in full:
 - Details of person completing this record
 - Child details
 - Incident details
 - Action Taken
 - Notifications: Time and date that the parent, guardian, or authorised nominee was notified of the occurrence (either by telephone during the program operations or on collection) or attempted to be notified.
 - Parental acknowledgement: Team leader will ask the parent/guardian to sign this document on arrival to collect the child. The Parent/guardian will be given a copy of the record upon request.
10. Notify the Service Manager of any serious incident immediately so appropriate documentation can be completed, and the Regulatory Authority notified within the prescribed time frame required of 24 hours (R 176).

Illness Procedure

When a child becomes ill in the program, a staff member will:

- Settle the child in a quiet area.
- Contact the parent/guardian and ask for the child to be picked up within a reasonable time frame.
- Telephone an authorised nominee to collect the child if they are unable to contact a parent/guardian.

- Parents/guardians will be asked to notify Wonder Kidz if the illness is a result of infectious disease, and the parents will be required to keep the child at home by recommendations on the DHHS Exclusions Table.
- Ask parents to consider the safety and wellbeing of others before bringing the child back to the service.

Head Injuries

Terms relating to head injuries:

- Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) – an injury to the brain that has occurred at any time after birth. Causes of ABI can include infection, stroke, or injury.
- Concussion – a traumatic brain injury that alters the way the brain functions. Effects of concussion are usually temporary but can include altered levels of consciousness, headaches, confusion, dizziness, memory loss of events surrounding the injury, and visual disturbance.
- Convulsion, seizure or fit – this can occur when there is a momentary imbalance within the electrical and chemical circuits in the brain. The imbalance may create a temporary disturbance in the way the brain controls awareness and responsiveness and may cause unusual sensations and/or abnormal movements and postures.
- Loss of consciousness – a time when a person is unable to open their eyes, speak or follow commands. They have no awareness of stimulation from outside their body.
- Traumatic head injury – an injury caused by an impact on the head.

GENERAL PROCEDURES

It is common for children to bang or bump their heads and it can sometimes be difficult to tell whether an injury is serious or not. Many head injuries are not serious and simply result in a bump or bruise. Occasionally, head injuries can result in damage to the brain.

Any knock to the head that causes lumps, bruises, cuts, or more severe injuries is classified as a head injury. If a child has received an injury to the head, they should see a doctor. Parents/guardians are to be notified immediately.

Seek medical help immediately by calling an ambulance on 000 if:

- The child has had a hard knock to the head, such as falling off something.
- The child loses consciousness (passes out); or
- The child seems unwell and vomits several times after hitting their head.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF A HEAD INJURY

The symptoms experienced after a head injury are used to determine how serious the injury is. Head injuries can be classified as mild, moderate, or severe. The information below is a guideline. If any of these symptoms are evident in the child/team member following an injury to the head, please seek medical assistance.

A mild head injury is when the child:	A moderate head injury is when the child:	A severe head injury is when the child:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May display an altered level of consciousness. • Is alert or interacts with you. • May have vomited. • May have bruising or cuts on their head. • Is otherwise normal. • You should seek medical advice if any of the above symptoms are concerning you; otherwise, continue to observe your child for any of the signs and symptoms listed as moderate and severe head injuries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has lost consciousness for a brief period. • Is alert and responds to your voice. • Has vomited two or more times. • Has a persistent or recurring headache. • Experiences visual disturbance. • May have had one brief seizure, convulsion or fit straight after the head injury. • May have a large bruise, lump or cut on their head. • Has confusion, loss of orientation to person, place or time, or memory loss. • You should call 000 for an ambulance immediately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has lost consciousness for a prolonged period or has an ongoing decreased conscious state. • Experiences visual disturbance. • Is drowsy and does not respond to your voice. • Have other significant head injury signs, such as unequally sized pupils or arm and leg weakness. • Has something stuck in their head? • Has a second seizure, convulsion or fit, other than a single brief one when the injury happened. • Has confusion or loss of orientation to time, person or place, or memory loss. • You should call 000 for an ambulance

ACTION PLAN WHEN AN AMBULANCE IS NEEDED

- Call 000 for an ambulance. Have service location details available.
- Please note that if calling emergency Service from the mobile phone you can dial 112 without entering the pin code and you will be connected to the '000'operator. You can also do this without the SIM card inserted.
- Have a trained First Aid staff member attend to the child.
- If possible, relocate children in the area to another area.
- Follow any direction as given by the ambulance. If possible, send a staff member to meet the ambulance at the entrance.
- Collect a copy of the child's health information is available to paramedics.
- The Service Director will contact the child's parents/guardians or authorised nominee to advise them of the incident and where they may meet their child in the ambulance. Every effort will be made to deal with the situation in a calm and efficient manner.
- Any costs incurred in ensuring prompt medical attention for a child will be met by the parents/guardians.
- The incident will be documented on an Incident, Injury, Trauma or Illness Record before the end of the session and forwarded to the manager.

Trauma, Serious Injury and/or Death

- If the tragedy of the death, trauma or serious injury of a child should occur while the child is at the Service, the team leader will:
 - Contact Emergency Services (police/ambulance), who should advise the child's parents/guardians in person and assist them with transport to the Service or hospital; and
- Contact the Manager to advise of the situation and request they notify the relevant regulatory authority.
- Staff members will comfort children and be aware that some children may have shock reactions to the incident. staff will do all they can to ensure

each child's health and wellbeing and will apply appropriate First Aid in response to children's shock reactions if required.

- If required, the manager will organise for families of the other children to be contacted to advise them of an emergency and request they arrive to collect their children as soon as they are able. On arrival, families will be advised about the serious injury/death of the child and will be given information about trauma counselling for their child if needed.
- The Manager will facilitate a debriefing session with all Team Members and provide information about trauma counselling for those who feel they need it. This may require the support of a Professional Counsellor.

After death or serious incident at the Service:

- The incident will be documented in compliance with NDIS Regulations.
- The incident will be reported to the relevant Regulatory Authority by the Manager in compliance with NDIS Regulations.
- All costs incurred in ensuring prompt medical attention for a child in this circumstance will be met by the parents/guardians.
- Wonder Kidz maintains a register of the incident, illness, and trauma which is accessible to the Service Manager for evaluation.

REFERENCES:

- ACECQA National Quality Framework Resource Kit (2012)
- Quality Area 1 – Educational Program and Practice.
- Quality Area 2 – Children's health and safety
- Staying Healthy in Child Care (5th Edition)
- Education and Care Services National Law Act (2010), S 168, S 167
- Education and Care Services National Regulations (2011), R 85, 86, 87, 89, 174, 175 & 176

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