

# The Kinder Garden



## Dental Health Policy

### Aim

The Kinder Garden aims to establish and reinforce good dental health practices for each child. The service will provide a learning environment that raises dental health awareness, and supports the development of valuable life skills and habits for children and families.

### Legislative Requirements

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010  
Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011  
National Quality Standards 2011  
Work Health and Safety Act 2011  
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011

### Who is affected by this policy?

Children  
Parents  
Staff  
Educators  
Management  
Families

### Implementation

- Arrangements are made for dental health professionals to visit the service to talk with children, educators/staff, and/or families about dental health.
- The service liaises with families to establish dental health practices that are workable at home and at the service.
- The service systematically incorporates information on dental health practices into the children's program, including tooth brushing, 'tooth friendly' snacks, and going to the dentist.
- The service will encourage healthy eating habits, and drinking water to quench thirst.
- Children will be encouraged to rinse their mouths with water to remove food debris after every meal or snack. (Swish and Swallow)
- Gently clean babies' gums and teeth with a clean damp cloth or cotton gauze to remove plaque and milk.
- Educators/staff role model good dental health practices.
- The service will provide information to families on dental health principles relating to different age groups of children, as recommended by recognised health and dental health authorities. Wherever possible this information will be provided in families home languages.

- Report to the family any sign of tooth caries (decay), any accident, injury or suspected injury to teeth and gums, gum swelling, infection in the mouth, or problems, pain or discomfort the child has with chewing, eating or swallowing.
- The service will be aware of dental first aid.

**The Approved Provider/Nominated Supervisor will ensure that this policy is maintained and implemented at all times.**

## Sources

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

National Quality Standards 2011

Staying Healthy in Child Care Fifth Edition

Australian Dental Association [ww.ada.org.au](http://www.ada.org.au) Retrieved 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Raising Children Network <http://raisingchildren.net.au> Retrieved 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017

## Review

The policy will be reviewed annually. Review will be conducted by management, employees, parents and any interested parties.

**Reviewed:** January 2018

**Date for next review:** January 2019