DIABETES POLICY

AIM
To ensure that plans are in place to effectively manage diabetes. 
To ensure parents, staff and medical professionals know their responsibilities when children are diagnosed with diabetes.

IMPLEMENTATION

Leadership will:
• Ensure policy is based on current best practice and is reviewed regularly following Centre policy for policy development. 
• Ensure an audit is conducted every three to six months (overseen by the Director/Assistant Director) to check that medication for each child is labeled and in date and the medication authority is current. 
• Ensure the support plans are filled in by a medical practitioner before commencement to guide educators and time with the family for discussion. 
• Liaison with DECD/hospital/Royal District Nurse Service to support care plan and injections. 
• Ensure staff undergo first aid training and attend meetings to familiarise themselves with the child’s signs/symptoms before the child starts care. 

Families will:
• Ensure all paperwork including medication authority, diabetes care plan and first aid plan are filled out by a medical professional. 
• Label all medication (e.g. insulin) and prescribed foods for the child as per Dealing with Medical Conditions policy before being given to staff. 

Team Leaders will:
• Ensure all medication is named, labeled and stored with a child’s diabetes care plan and medication authority. It is the responsibility of staff to ensure they know which medication and snacks belong to which child and that the medication is stored correctly. Medication must be stored in an Allergy Buddy pocket with a photo of the child and a permanent marker for writing expiry dates on insulin. 
• Attend meetings and information sessions before the child commences care to support educators understanding around diabetes and their care plan. 

Staff will:
• Provide snacks and meals at the times listed on the care plan and monitor food intake. 
• Provide access to additional snacks especially when vigorous physical activity has been undertaken . 
• Provide unrestricted access to drinking water. 
• Ensure the toilet is accessible at all times. 
• Make time for additional planning with families to accommodate changes in routine (i.e. excursions.)
• Provide emergency treatment, supervision and support in the event of an excessively high or low blood glucose level
• Support, encourage and provide privacy for the child when monitoring blood glucose levels and when a registered nurse or parent is injecting insulin.

**EVALUATION:**
This will be seen to be effective when:
• Staff are aware of how to treat children with diabetes.
• Families are aware of their responsibilities.
• There is an effective system for storing and accessing medication.

**National Quality Standards:**
Element 2.1.1. Each child’s health needs are supported.
**Implemented:** January 2011 (as Health Management)
**Reviewed:** February 2016
**Next Review:** February 2017

**Source:** [www.diabetessa.com.au](http://www.diabetessa.com.au)