

SA Montessori Pre-schools Policies

Immunisation Policy

Statement

SA Montessori Pre-schools aim to uphold its obligation under the laws of the Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Division 2, Section 19, Subsection 3 (A) to provide a safe and healthy environment for employees, children and visitors attending the centres.

Rationale

Children who are not immunised may place themselves and other members of the centre at risk through the possible introduction of an infectious disease. From 7 August, 2020, the South Australian Public Health Act 2011 (the Act), outlines that children will not be able to enrol in or attend early childhood services unless all immunisation requirements are met. All children attending our centre must be immunised according to the Australian Standard Vaccination Schedule.

Procedures

- The Immunisation policy is effective from 1st July 2003.
- SA Montessori Pre-school Centres will not enrol children without approved records that they are 'up to date' according to the Australian Immunisation Register, as per the Australian Standard Vaccination Schedule.
<https://www.health.gov.au/topics/immunisation/when-to-get-vaccinated/national-immunisation-program-schedule>
- Parents will need to provide an approved immunisation record from the Australian Immunisation Register (accessible via Medicare) as evidence of the child's 'up to date' immunisation status.
- Homeopathic vaccination is not accepted.
- A current approved immunisation record needs to be supplied:
 - at the time of the child's enrolment;
 - after the child turns 7 months of age but before the child turns 9 months of age;
 - after the child turns 13 months of age but before the child turns 15 months of age;
 - after the child turns 19 months of age but before the child turns 21 months of age;
 - after the child turns 4 years and 2 months of age but before the child turns 4 years and 8 months of age.
- Where a child is on an 'approved catch up schedule', enrolment is not guaranteed until they are 'up to date'. Families may lodge a request that will be considered by centre owners to commence enrolment during the 'approved catch up schedule' depending on the timeframe and circumstances.
- Once enrolled, if a child does not remain up to date with the immunisation program for any reason (including, but not limited to, health exemption or conscientious objection), parents will be required to remove their child from the service. The forfeiture of enrolment may be effective immediately and the centre is not required to provide the parents with a notice period.
- The services will make available to families and staff information on immunisation schedules and clinics where possible
- Where appropriate the centre will invite health care professionals to address parents and staff on immunisation and related health matters

Training and awareness

This Policy will be accessible through the SA Montessori staff Onboarding and Ongoing Development course to ensure staff are knowledgeable about its principles, contents and requirements.

Linkage to other policies

Confidentiality Policy

Sourcing

Australian Immunisation Handbook 10th Edition

National Health and Medical Research Council

Work Health & Safety Act 2012

SA Health

South Australian Public Health Act 2011 (the Act), from 7 August 2020

Staying Healthy: Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services 6th Edition

Development date

26/01/06

'SA Montessori' Definition

For the purposes of these Policy documents the term 'SA Montessori' refers to a collective of centres functioning as a professional network with shared management through 'MMM'. These documents have been developed by MMM with intellectual property rights retained. By accepting these Policy documents, the company directors, approved providers and/or persons with management or control (PMCs) of each entity acknowledge that these policies do not release them from their responsibilities, obligations, or liabilities.

SA Montessori Pre-school centres include:

Cedars Montessori Pre-school

Chancery Lane Montessori Pre-school

Echoes Montessori

Jescott Montessori Pre-school

Little Oxford Montessori

Lilliput Village Montessori

Rosemont House Montessori

Review date

All SA Montessori Policies will be reviewed at least annually by MMM. In addition to the annual review, individual policies may be adjusted at any time in the event of community feedback, changes to guiding documents or legislative updates.

Review history:

Date	Policy satisfactory	Policy amended	Comments	Next review due:
26/6/10	√			6/11
26/5/11	√			6/12
10/4/12		√	Reviewed and changed from JSC Montessori Pre-schools to SA Montessori Pre-schools	4/13
8/4/13		√	Add to source:	4/14

			Australian Immunisation Handbook 10 th Edition	
3/4/14		√		4/15
2/4/15		√	Add new centres to SA Montessori listing	4/16
4/4/16		√	Amend reference to Work Health & Safety Act 2012	4/17
21/4/16		√	Amended new centre name. Removed Montessori On The Park & Montessori From The Start. Changed to Rosemont House Montessori	4/17
18/4/17	√			4/18
26/4/18		√	Amended the name Babthorpe Montessori Preschool to reflect the new centre's name being Lilliput Village Montessori.	4/19
5/4/19		√	Added new centre, Little Oxford Montessori, to SA Montessori listing	4/20
28/2/20	√			4/21
15/7/21		√	Added new centre, Echoes Montessori, to SA Montessori listing	4/22
20/6/22	√		Removed wording: "Families with children enrolled at the centre prior to the introduction of this policy are exempt from its limitation" Added requirements as per Australian Immunisation Register Added intervals that records must be provided Included requirements for when a child is on an 'approved catch up schedule' Added wording to specify that if a child does not remain up to date with the immunisation program for any reason parents will be required to remove their child from the service with possible immediate forfeiture of enrolment and no required notice period	4/23
27/4/23	√			4/24
6/7/24		√	Addition of Training and Awareness, SA Montessori Definition & Review Date	7/25
1/9/24		√	Update of Staying Healthy V6, minor wording changes in relation to revised recommendations	7/25
5/3/25	√		End of consultation period for all Policies following significant updates in 2024. Feedback incorporated as needed, no further changes required as of March 2025.	3/26