

Bottle Safety and Preparation Policy



Policy Relevant to:	All team members, Educators & families
Last Reviewed:	September 2023
Next Review:	May 2025
NQF:	77, 78, 168, 170, 171, 172
NQS:	2.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2, 2.2.1

Rational

As young children (particularly those under 12 months) are still developing their immune system; they are more susceptible to food borne illnesses and infection. This therefore makes it imperative that education and care services implement and maintain the highest level of hygiene practices. Adventure Patch services will ensure that safe practices are consistently maintained for handling, storing, preparing and heating breast milk and formula, and sterilising bottles and teats.

Policy

To ensure Adventure Patch services maintains a safe and hygienic environment for all infants and toddlers requiring a bottle, educators will sterilise and prepare bottles safely and hygienically in accordance with recognised guidelines and best practice. All educators preparing and/or handling bottles will have undergone training in safe food handling.

Implementation

During their first year of life, babies are at their most vulnerable to viruses, bacteria, and parasitic infections, due to their immune system not yet being fully developed. Unsafe or careless food handling practices can therefore lead to anything from a mild attack of thrush to a more serious condition of gastroenteritis, all of which are similar to food poisoning and can cause vomiting and diarrhoea, and subsequent dehydration.

To ensure that bottles are consistently prepared in a safe and hygienic manner educators will adhere to Service procedures at all times.

Adventure Patch will:

- procedures for the safe storage and heating of food provided in bottles are strictly adhered to.
- infants over 6 months of age are given small amounts of cooled boiled water in addition to breastmilk or formula as required
- infants are given only breast milk, formula, or cooled boiled water: They are not given fruit juice in their bottle due to the increase risk of tooth decay.
- ensure families are familiar with their responsibilities in accordance with this policy.

Other Policies

Nutrition Policy
Food Safety Policy
Health & Safety Policy

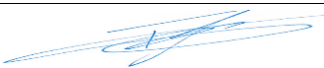
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Review History

Policy Reviewed By:	Lindy Davis	Manager LDC	September 2023
POLICY REVIEWED	September 2023	NEXT REVIEW DATE	May 2025
Modifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policy maintenance - no major changes to policy • hyperlinks checked and repaired as required • added related policy list 		
POLICY REVIEWED	PREVIOUS MODIFICATIONS		NEXT REVIEW DATE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 		

Signed

CEO:	
Manager:	<i>L Davis</i>