OSHC Dangerous Products Policy

Purpose:

The aim of this policy is to:
• Minimise the risk of potentially dangerous products being accessible to all children at all times,
• Ensure that staff members respond appropriately to an exposure to dangerous products by initiating appropriate treatment.
• Where appropriate, use a less toxic product for cleaning and other purposes in the OSHC program.

Rationale:

Gembrook Primary School OSHC programs are committed to provide a safe environment

Scope:

The Children's Services Act 1996 and the Children’s Services Regulations of 2009 requires Gembrook Primary School to implement an Dangerous Products Policy that includes a management practices, procedure, education and training to ensure the safety of children. This policy applies to all parents and authorised persons, staff, visitors, volunteers and students working within the centre.

Protocol/Procedure:

Gembrook Primary School OSHC shall:

• Provide families/guardians with information from recognised/current health and safety authorities regarding the storage and handling of potentially dangerous products at home.
• Regularly offer training for staff on current practices in relation to potentially dangerous products, plants, vermin and objects.

Families shall:

• Record any allergies related to cleaning products on enrolment forms.

Gembrook Primary School staff shall:

• Ensure all chemicals, first aid supplies, medicines and cleaning agents are stored in their original labelled containers.
• Ensure all chemicals, first aid supplies, medicines and cleaning agents are stored and labelled in chemical storage areas immediately after use.

• Ensure that chemicals and cleaning agents have a Material Safety Data Sheet provided by the supplier at the time of delivery.

• Ensure all chemicals, first aid supplies, medicines and cleaning agents are stored out of reach of children or in a locked cupboard labelled 'chemical storage' or 'first aid'.

• Ensure warning signs are posted on, or near storage areas for potentially dangerous products and include a list of those products held.

• Ensure the service has a first-aid action plan on dangerous products which are displayed close to the stored hazardous chemicals.

• Ensure the service's criteria for equipment purchases promote recyclable, re-usable, natural, non-toxic, environmentally friendly resources.

• Ensure all plants brought into the centre are checked against the VPIC list prior to exposure to children.

• Ensure all telephones have the VPIC phone number beside them at all times.

• Ensure annual updates of the plants list are obtained through VPIC.

• Ensure plant lists from VPIC are available in parent resources.

First Aid treatment - As recommended by the Victorian Poisons Information Centre

If the victim has collapsed, stopped breathing, is fitting or is suffering an anaphylactic reaction, ring 000 for an ambulance

Swallowed poison

DO NOT try to make the patient vomit.

Pick up the container and take it to the telephone.

Call the Victorian Poisons Informacion Centre on 13 11 26.

Poison on the skin

Remove contaminated clothing, taking care to avoid contact with the chemical.
Flood the skin with cool running water for 15 minutes, then wash gently with soap and water. Rinse well.

Call the Victorian Poisons Informacion Centre on 1311 26.

Poisons in the eye

Hold the eyelids open, flood the eye with water from a cup, jug or slowly running tap.

Continue for 10-15 minutes.

Call the Victorian Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26

Inhaled poison

Get the person to fresh air quickly without placing yourself at risk. Open doors and windows wide, if safe to do so.

Call the Victorian Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26

Related Policy

References/Legislation

The Children's Services Regulations 2009
The Children's Services Act 1996
The Occupational Health & Safety Act 1985
Workplace Relations Act 1996
National Childcare Accreditation Council (NCAC):  www.nhmrc.gov.au

Policy History:

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