

HEAD INJURY POLICY

Policy Statement:

Educators are competent in delivering First Aid required specifically for head injuries, as needed throughout the day at McKay Children's Centre.

Procedure:

1. Educators will assess the severity of the head injury using the information below

A **Mild** head injury or concussion:

- May display altered level of consciousness at the time of the injury
- Is now alert and interacts with you
- May have vomited, but only once
- May have bruises or cuts on their head
- Is otherwise normal

A **Moderate** or **Severe** head injury:

- Lose consciousness
- Be drowsy and not respond to your voice
- Be dazed or shocked
- Not cry straight after the knock to the head (younger children)
- Be confused, have memory loss or loss of orientation about place, time or the people around them
- Experience visual disturbance
- Have unequally sized pupils or weakness in their arm or leg
- Have something stuck in their head, or a cut causing bleeding that is difficult to stop, or a large bump or bruise on their head
- Have a seizure, convulsion or fit
- Vomit more than once

2. Apply first aid appropriately depending on the severity of the injury

3. Contact the parent/guardian for ALL head injuries. Not all head injuries will require the child to go home however a text/call needs to be made as a courtesy to inform parent/caregivers the child is being monitored

4. Call ambulance if the child shows these signs:

- Unconscious for more than a few seconds
- Abnormal breathing
- Obvious serious wound
- Bleeding or clear fluid from the nose, ear or mouth
- Disturbance of speech or vision
- Weakness or paralysis
- Neck pain or stiffness
- Seizure

Sources:

- Parenting and Child Health – Head Injuries: Babies and children fact sheet
- The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne – Head injury: General advice fact sheet
- Kids health – Head Injury fact sheet

Record of Policy Adoption and Amendments:

Approved Governing Council: 9/21

Reviewed:

Date	Amendments	Reviewed by:	Approved by:
09/22			