

POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS PRODUCTS POLICY

PURPOSE:

To ensure that all products used within the centre are stored and handled in a safe way and have Material Safety Data Sheets available on them at all times.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Potentially dangerous products are those which pose a risk of poisoning and / or injury to children and may include:

- Medication
- Cleaning products
- Garden chemicals
- Pest Control treatments and devices
- Sharp utensils
- Soiled nappies and other soiled clothing

This centre is committed to the use of products for the above mentioned purposes which pose the least possible dangers whilst at the same time not jeopardising hygiene. The use of potentially dangerous products in spray bottles will be restricted to the use only when children are not in the immediate vicinity

All bottles and containers will be adequately labelled with Manufactures Approved Labelling and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for each hazardous chemical will be in a readily assessable location.

Storage of potential dangerous products will be inaccessible to children using child proof locked cupboards, locked containers for refrigerated medications and out of reach shelving with doors kept closed. Similarly soiled nappies and other soiled clothing will be kept in securely covered containers in locked cupboards or locked laundry area.

Contents of cupboards and shelving will be posted as will simple warning signs that potential dangerous products are in storage.

No poisonous or hazards plants will be grown within the centre, all plants will be identified and removed if poisonous and staff will maintain a daily Hazard Register which is to be used each morning as a checklist for the removal of hazardous objects of the outdoor environments before children enter the playgrounds.

The centre has an agreement with a licensed pest control company for regular after hours servicing of building and grounds to protect against insects, spiders and vermin.

Records of Material Safety Data Sheets for all chemicals used by the company are kept on the premises and any devices utilised will be locked and inaccessible to children. The centre will maintain current information on dangerous products, plants and objects and for relief staff and visitors the safe storage of potentially dangerous products will be displayed. The centre will provide families with information about the safe storage of potentially dangerous products within the home

Where appropriate staff will program to discuss with children safety issues relating to dangerous products, vermin, plants and objects

Reviewed: 10 June 2005
Source: Kids Health – The children’s Hospital at Westmead
Poison Information Centre
Managing OHS in Children’s Services - S. Tarrant – Lady
Gowrie Centre