

Thanet Early Years Project

HIV /Aids Policy

General Statement

Thanet Early Years Project (TEYP) acknowledges that chronic illness such as HIV/Aids and hepatitis B and C can impact on a child and their family in varying degrees, including children's attendance, behaviour and educational attainment.

Aims

TEYP aims to create a supportive environment and recognises that a child living with/or affected by a chronic illness has the right to access early childhood education and care and that support will be provided to the child and their family.

An equal level of support and non-discriminatory practice will apply in the case of staff, parents or visitors infected or affected by HIV/Aids.

TEYP acknowledges the stigma and discrimination that surrounds HIV/Aids and aims to actively promote awareness and inclusion.

The way that we achieve these aims is by following the procedures listed below:

- If a family discloses any information about illness or disability affecting the child or members of his/her family, any sharing of that information will be done on a need-to-know basis and only with the consent of the parent unless there is a child protection issue/concern.
- The same level of confidentiality will also apply to a disclosure made by a member of staff, parent or visitor and their written consent will be obtained before any information is shared.
- Universal first aid procedures are used throughout the organisation and Paediatric First Aid training is reviewed for staff every three years.
- TEYP training and induction procedures ensure that all practitioners and other staff have a basic understanding of HIV transmission and an awareness of the stigma faced by those affected or infected with the virus.
- Hygiene procedures relating to blood borne infection are displayed in all TEYP settings.
- HIV awareness forms a part of the TEYP Development Plan.