

Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Limited



Department: Education	Description: Policy
Administrative Area: Risk Management and Compliance	Type: Mandatory
Document Name: Vaccination Policy	Issue Date: 5 August 2019
Document ID: SQS168.002.EDU	Review Date: Term 3 - 2021

Northpine Christian College

Vaccination Policy

Purpose:	The purpose of this policy is to provide a guideline to Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Limited on vaccination of students and staff to effectively manage the risk to children and employees of exposure to diseases that are preventable by vaccination.	
Scope:	The policy for vaccination of students and staff is applicable to all schools operated by Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Limited. It includes children attending all of the system's schools, parents and employees, including full-time, part-time, permanent, fixed-term and casual employees, as well as contractors, volunteers and people undertaking work experience or vocational placements.	
References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Health Act 2005 (Qld) Public Health Regulations 2018 (Qld) Australian Privacy Principles SDAS(SQ)Ltd's WH&S Policy Statement <ELS Service Name> Illness & Infectious Disease Policy SDAS(SQ)Ltd's Privacy Policy 	
Status:	Approved	Supersedes: SQS168.001.ADM Vaccination
Policy Owner:	Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Limited	
Authorised by:	Education Director	Date of Authorisation: 5 August 2019
Approved by:	<p>This policy has been ratified by the Board of Directors of Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Limited as the Vaccination Policy for Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Limited.</p> <p>Pr Brett Townend Board of Directors Chairperson: Date of Approval: 6/08/2019</p> <p>Pr Colin Renfrew Board of Directors Secretary: Date of Approval: 6/08/2019</p>	
Review Cycle:	Reviewed Biennially (every two years)	Next Review Date: Term 3 - 2021
Review Team:	Board of Directors, NSSAB, Chief Executive Officer, Project Officers	
Revised by: Steve Cowley (8 February 2018)	<u>Section</u> Appendix	<u>Details of Changes</u> Replaced March 2015 National Immunisation Program (Queensland Schedule) with July 2017 National Immunisation Program (Queensland Schedule)
Vanessa Woodman (5 August 2019)	Whole document	Updated formatting to the New Template

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Revised by:	<u>Section</u>	<u>Details of Changes</u>
Vanessa Woodman (5 August 2019)	Title page - References	Updated <i>Public Health Regulations 2005 (Qld)</i> to 2018 Updated ECEC reference to 'ELS' and Added 'Infectious Disease' Policy Removed reference to SDAS(SQ)Ltd Enrolment & Orientation Policy and Record Retention which are school based level policies.
Vanessa Woodman (5 August 2019)	Section 2 - Definitions	Updated Reference for Contagious condition to <i>Public Health Regulations 2018 (Qld), Sch 4, Part 2</i>
Vanessa Woodman (5 August 2019)	Section 3.1.1 & 3.1.3	Updated 'Immunisation' Policy to say 'Vaccination' Policy
Vanessa Woodman (5 August 2019)	Section 6 - Appendices	Replaced July 2017 National Immunisation Program (Queensland Schedule) to April 2019 Immunisation Schedule Queensland

1. Policy

Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd. is committed to ensuring the health and safety of children and employees at the schools we operate who are at risk of exposure to diseases that are preventable by vaccination. Immunisation of children and employees is an effective way to manage this risk.

It is the policy of **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** to:

- Actively support the immunisation of all children enrolled at the service;
- Actively support the immunisation of all employees working at the service; and
- Inform parents and employees of vaccination recommendations.

In line with the Public Health Act 2005, **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** will comply with requests from Queensland Health for information regarding a child enrolled at the service who has a contagious condition.

1.1.1 Children

Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd. requires details of any previous infection with vaccine-preventable diseases and the immunisation status for such disease for each child to be kept in their enrolment record. Accordingly, an immunisation history statement will be sought from families upon the enrolment of their child, and thereafter when the child passes a vaccination age milestone relevant to **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** (being in Years 8 and 10).

In accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council, **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** recommends that enrolled children are vaccinated according to their age group. Please see Appendices for more information regarding the recommended vaccinations according to a child's age group.

1.1.2 Outbreaks of Infectious Disease:

In accordance with the *Public Health Act* 2005, if children are not medically vaccinated according to their age group, they will be excluded from attendance at **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** during outbreaks of some infectious diseases in the community (such as measles and pertussis), even if the child is well. If a family has not provided an immunisation history statement to the service, **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** will assume that the child is not medically vaccinated and act accordingly.

Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd. requires details of any previous infection with vaccine-preventable diseases and the immunisation status for such diseases for each employee to be kept in their employment record.

Furthermore, **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** recommends that its employees are immunised against:

- Pertussis
- Measles–mumps–rubella (MMR)
- Varicella

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- Hepatitis A
- Influenza
- Hepatitis B (if caring for children with intellectual disabilities)

Employees who are pregnant or immunocompromised should seek their own medical advice about vaccinations.

If an employee refuses reasonable requests for immunisation, there may be potential consequences as follows:

- Being excluded from work during outbreaks of preventable diseases.

2. Definitions

Definitions relevant to this policy include:

Catch-up schedule: a documented plan to complete a course of vaccination and provide optimal protection against disease as quickly as possible

Contagious condition: means a contagious medical condition prescribed under the *Public Health Regulation 2018*, Schedule 4, Part 2 as a contagious condition

Immunisation: both receiving a vaccine and becoming immune to a disease, as a result of being vaccinated

Immunisation history statement: Section 160A of the *Public Health Act 2005* defines this statement as being:

- an official record issued by the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register (ACIR) or
- a letter from a recognised immunisation provider (e.g. a General Practitioner or recognised immunisation nurse).

The Red Book or Personal Health Record from Queensland Health is a good record for parents. However, as it contains hand written immunisation records it is not recognised as an official record of a child's immunisation status and is not an acceptable form of proof of vaccination.

Medically vaccinated: when a person has received a vaccine that has been scientifically proven to be effective in preventing disease

Non-medically vaccinated: when a person has either not received a vaccination at all, or has received a treatment that is said to act as a vaccine but has not been scientifically proven to be effective (e.g. homeopathic or naturopathic vaccination)

Vaccination: having a vaccine; that is, actually getting the injection

3. Responsibilities

3.1.1 Parents

- To inform the school promptly if their child contracts a preventable disease.
- Be aware of and act in accordance with **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd. Vaccination Policy**;
- Provide an accurate and up to date record of their child's infectious disease record and an up to date immunisation history statement upon enrolment;

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- Provide an accurate and up to date copy of their child's immunisation history statement when the child passes a vaccination age milestone relevant to **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** (being in Years 8 and 10); and
- Accept and act upon decisions by **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** to exclude their child during outbreaks of some infectious diseases if the child is not medically vaccinated against the disease, as recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council exclusion guidelines and the *Public Health Act 2005*.

3.1.2 School Principal

- To discuss with the parents/carers:
 - The school's policy on vaccination including the recommendation that all students should be vaccinated,
 - The need for disclosure to the school of the child's vaccination status and record
 - The need to keep their child home during outbreaks of preventable diseases in the community
 - The need to inform the school promptly if the child contracts a preventable disease.
- To communicate with school staff and provide:
 - training and support regarding
 - the vaccination policy,
 - Information about their obligation to provide the school with their vaccination status and record.
 - Their obligation to remain at home during outbreaks of preventable diseases in the community.
 - Their obligation to exclude from school unvaccinated children during outbreaks of preventable diseases in the community.
- Keep up to date and accurate records of the immunisation status of children and employees;
- Manage the collection of "sensitive information" about health information, including immunisation, in accordance with the *Australian Privacy Principles*;
- Take all reasonable steps to encourage children and employees who are not medically vaccinated to be vaccinated; and
- Comply with information requests by Queensland Health under section 172 of the *Public Health Act 2005*.

3.1.3 School Staff

- To participate in training provided regarding the vaccination policy.
- To follow any instructions and directions given by the School Principal regarding preventable diseases.
- Be aware of and act in accordance with **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** Vaccination Policy;
- Provide an accurate and up to date record of their infectious disease record and immunisation status upon commencement;
- Advise **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** in a timely manner when they receive a vaccination;
- Accept and act upon decisions by **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** to take appropriate action to protect employees who are not medically immunised from infectious diseases; and

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- Accept and act upon decisions by **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** to exclude employees during outbreaks of some infectious diseases if they are not medically vaccinated against the disease, as recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council exclusion guidelines.

4. Implementation

In practice, **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** commitment to effectively managing the risk of exposure to diseases that are preventable by vaccination means that it will implement the following measures:

- Awareness - regularly raise awareness of the importance of immunisation, including by the development and implementation of this Policy, taking all reasonable steps to encourage children and employees to be vaccinated via the clear support and promotion of this Policy; and
- Record keeping, monitoring, reporting – keep appropriate records, monitor and report on immunisation within the school.
- Recognise preventable diseases as a hazard when carrying out risk assessments for excursions to remote and/or overseas locations where the availability of medical assistance is limited and take into account risks to the following:
 - Unvaccinated children
 - Unvaccinated staff
 - Other people with whom students may come into contact during the excursion such as passengers on all forms of transport and unvaccinated people in developing countries.
- Where preventable diseases are included as a hazard, the same risk management principles must be applied as with all other hazards. Eliminate the hazard where practicable and apply control measures where it is not. Residual risk ratings must be tolerable or lower for the excursion to proceed. Because excluding unvaccinated children from class during outbreaks of preventable diseases is part of this policy, exclusion of unvaccinated children from high risk activities where prompt, up-to-date medical treatment is not easily accessible must be considered as a viable method of controlling risk.

5. Compliance and Monitoring

In accordance with its responsibilities, **Seventh-day Adventist Schools (South Queensland) Ltd.** will undertake the following compliance and monitoring activities:

- Keep up to date and accurate records of the immunisation status of children and employees, as follows:
 - Develop a child and employee immunisation record that documents each child and employee's previous infection with vaccine-preventable diseases or immunisation for such diseases;
 - Require all new and current children and employees to complete the immunisation record;
 - When enrolling children, make a note of when the child will need updates to their vaccinations and remind parents of this in the month prior;
 - Regularly update child and employee immunisation records as vaccinations are administered; and

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- Conduct an annual review of the immunisation status of all children and employees and take reasonable steps to support appropriate immunisation;
- Document advice given to parents and employees; and
- Comply with requests by Queensland Health under section 172 of the *Public Health Act 2005*.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Immunisation Schedule Queensland – Children (under 10 years)

Appendix 2 - Immunisation Schedule Queensland – Children and adolescents (10-19 years)

Appendix 3 - Immunisation Schedule Queensland – Adults (above 19 years)

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Immunisation Schedule Queensland Children (under 10 years)

April 2019

Before vaccinating:

- **Review** the **Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)** to check the child's previous immunisation history
- Check the **online Australian Immunisation Handbook** for information about reconstitution of vaccines, site to administer, catch-up vaccination, vaccination for special risk groups, etc at <https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/>
- **Apply sequential dose numbers** for each vaccine administered and **report all records** immediately to **AIR**

Age	Disease	Vaccine brand	Important notes
Birth	Hepatitis B	H-B-VaxII paediatric OR Engerix B paediatric	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give within 24 hours of birth • Can be given up to 7 days after birth
	Tuberculosis	BCG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children *Please see BCG note over the page
2 months (can be given from 6 weeks) and 4 months	DTPa-hepB-IPV-Hib	Infanrix Hexa - <i>reconstitute</i>	ALL CHILDREN
	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13	
	Rotavirus	Rotarix	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st dose must be given <15 weeks of age • 2nd dose must be given <25 weeks of age Check the Rotarix wheel for timing of vaccination
6 months	DTPa-hep B-IPV-Hib	Infanrix Hexa - <i>reconstitute</i>	ALL CHILDREN
	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children • Children with medical risk factors • Premature infants born <28 weeks gestation
From 6 months to <5 years	Influenza	As supplied	ALL CHILDREN should receive influenza vaccine annually • 2 doses required for children from 6 months to <9 years of age with a minimum of 1 month between doses in the first year they receive influenza vaccine Please refer to the Influenza Program Advice

Age	Disease	Vaccine brand	Important notes
12 months	Measles-mumps-rubella	Priorix - <i>reconstitute</i> OR MMRII - <i>reconstitute</i>	ALL CHILDREN
	Meningococcal ACWY	Nimenrix	
	Pneumococcal	Prevenar 13	
	Hepatitis A	Vaqta paediatric	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children
	Hepatitis B	H-B-VaxII paediatric OR Engerix B paediatric	Premature baby <32 weeks gestation or <2000g birthweight only
18 months	Measles-mumps-rubella-varicella	Priorix Tetra - <i>reconstitute</i> OR Proquad - <i>reconstitute</i>	ALL CHILDREN
	<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b	Act-HIB - <i>reconstitute</i>	ALL CHILDREN
	DTPa	Infanrix OR Tripacel	ALL CHILDREN
	Hepatitis A	Vaqta paediatric	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children
4 years	DTPa-IPV	Infanrix IPV OR Quadacel	ALL CHILDREN
	Pneumococcal	Pneumovax 23	1 dose for children with medical risk factors
5 years and older	Influenza	As supplied	ALL Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children from 6 months of age

*BCG is provided by TB Control Units and is recommended for:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander newborns and other children <5 years of age living in Indigenous communities
- Children <5 years travelling to a country of high TB incidence for a prolonged period
- Newborns where there is a family history of leprosy

Further information can be obtained from www.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0027/637614/bcg-English.pdf

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Immunisation Schedule Queensland

April 2019

Children and adolescents (10 to 19 years) Always check the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) prior to vaccinating

Any additional information about the vaccines included in this schedule should be obtained from online Australian Immunisation Handbook (AIH) at www.beta.health.gov.au/health-topics/immunisation

Age	Disease	Vaccine brand	Important notes		
School Immunisation Program – vaccinations not given in the school program should be caught up at the usual immunisation provider					
Year 7 students (or age equivalent)	Human papillomavirus (HPV)	Gardasil 9	• 2 doses given at 0 and 6 months • Immunocompromised adolescents require 3 doses given at 0, 2 and 6 months.		
	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis	Boostrix	• 1 dose		
Year 10 students (or age equivalent)	Meningococcal ACWY	Nimenrix <i>reconstitute</i>	• 1 dose		
Additional vaccines for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and medically at risk adolescents					
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (ALL age groups)	Influenza	As supplied	• 1 dose every year (Refer to the current Influenza Immunisation Program, Program Advice)		
People with medical risk factors for invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD)	Pneumococcal	Pneumovax 23	Refer to the online version of the AIH for a list of medical risk factors and to determine who is eligible to be vaccinated		
Catch-up vaccines					
All 10 to 19 years (with partial or no documented history)	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis	Adacel OR Boostrix	• 3 doses at 0, 1 and 2 months • Minimum interval between each dose is 4 weeks		
	Poliomyelitis	IPOL	• 3 doses at 0, 1 and 2 months • Minimum interval between each dose is 4 weeks		
	Measles-mumps-rubella	Priorix OR MMRII <i>reconstitute</i>	• 2 doses required at 0 and 1 month • Minimum interval between each dose is 4 weeks		
	Hepatitis B	H-B-VaxII OR Engerix B	10 to <11 years and 16 to 19 years <i>Use paediatric dose vaccine</i>		11 to 15 years <i>Use adult dose vaccine</i>
			• 3 doses at 0, 1 and 6 months after dose • Minimum interval between dose 1 and dose 3 is 4 months		• 2 doses at 0 and 6 months after dose • Minimum interval between each dose is 4 months
Chickenpox	Varilrix OR Varivax <i>reconstitute</i>	• Only 1 dose required for adolescents <14 years • 2 doses required for individuals 14 years • Minimum interval between each dose is 4 weeks			
Year 7 or age equivalent, up to 19 years	Human papillomavirus (HPV)	Gardasil 9	<15 years 2 doses	Immunocompromised 3 doses	15 to 19 years 3 doses
			• 0 (day of dose 1) • 6-12 months Note: If dose 1 is given before the 15th birthday only 2 doses are required	• 0 (day of dose 1) • 2 months • 6 months	• 0 (day of dose 1) • 2 months • 6 months
All 15 to 19 years (with no previous dose)	Meningococcal ACWY	Nimenrix <i>reconstitute</i>	• 1 dose Note: If required NeisVacC can be provided for catch up on request		

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Immunisation Schedule Queensland Adults (above 19 years)

April 2019

Always check the Australian Immunisation Register prior to vaccinating

Any additional information about the vaccines included in this schedule should be obtained from the online Australian Immunisation Handbook (AIH).

Age	Disease	Vaccine brand	Important notes
All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults	Influenza	As supplied	• 1 dose every year
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders ≥50 years	Pneumococcal	Pneumovax 23	• 2 doses recommended • Minimum interval between dose 1 and dose 2 is 5 years
All people with medical risk conditions predisposing them to severe influenza	Influenza	As supplied	• 1 dose every year
Refer to the pneumococcal disease chapter in the online AIH for conditions associated with an increased risk of invasive pneumococcal disease (IPD)			
All adults aged ≥65 years	Influenza	As supplied	• 1 dose every year
	Pneumococcal	Pneumovax 23	• 1 dose Refer to the online version of the AIH
Pregnant women	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis	Adacel OR Boostrix	• 1 dose recommended for each pregnancy • Administer between 20 to 32 weeks gestation for optimal protection
	Influenza	As supplied	• Give at any stage of pregnancy
70 years	Varicella zoster (shingles)	Zostavax <i>reconstitute</i>	• 1 dose • Catch-up from 71 to 79 years (until the end of 2021) • Check contraindications prior to vaccinating
Refugees and other humanitarian entrants aged 20 years and over (with no documented history)	Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis	Boostrix OR Adacel	• 3 doses at 0, 1 and 2 months • Minimum interval between each dose is 4 weeks
	Chickenpox	Varilrix OR Varivax <i>reconstitute</i>	• 2 doses • Minimum interval between each dose is 4 weeks
	Poliomyelitis	IPOL	• 3 doses • Minimum interval between each dose is 4 weeks
	Measles-mumps-rubella	Priorix OR MMRII <i>reconstitute</i>	• 2 doses • Minimum interval between dose 1 and dose 2 is 4 weeks
	Hepatitis B	H-B-VaxII OR Engerix B	• 3 doses • Minimum interval between dose 1 and dose 3 is 4 months • Either the 0, 1 and 4 months OR the 0, 2 and 4 months schedule is acceptable

Other funded adult vaccinations (ongoing)

Criteria	Disease	Vaccine brand	Notes
Born during or since 1966	Measles-mumps-rubella	Priorix OR MMRII <i>reconstitute</i>	• 2 doses • Minimum interval between doses is 4 weeks

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