

Infection Prevention and Control Policy

The Little Sanctuary Support Services PTY LTD

The Little Sanctuary Support Services Pty Ltd (“the Organisation”) is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all participants, families, carers, staff, and volunteers.

This policy outlines Little Sanctuary Support Services' commitment to safeguarding the health and wellbeing of participants and staff by implementing comprehensive infection prevention and control (IPC) measures. These measures aim to minimise the risk of infection transmission within our services, in alignment with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Practice Standards, Queensland Health guidelines, and relevant Australian legislation.

This policy is directly linked to our Code of Conduct and reflects our values of respect, integrity, empowerment, and empathy.

1. Scope and applicability

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers, contractors, and visitors involved in the delivery of services to participants, including those in residential, community, and home-based settings.

2. Legislative and Regulatory Framework

This policy is informed by:

NDIS Practice Standards: Specifically, the Core Module and Supplementary Modules, which require providers to implement IPC standard precautions, including hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) [NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission](#).

Public Health Act 2005 (QLD): Mandates the development and implementation of Infection Control Management Plans (ICMPs) for healthcare facilities to prevent or minimize the risk of infection [Queensland Health](#).

Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019): Provides evidence-based recommendations for IPC practices in healthcare settings [Queensland Health](#).

3. Infection Prevention Control Standard Precautions

Hand Hygiene

- All staff will perform hand hygiene using alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water:
 - Before and after providing care.
 - After contact with respiratory secretions or contaminated surfaces.
 - Before eating or preparing food.

Respiratory Hygiene and Cough Etiquette

- Staff and participants will be educated on:
 - Covering mouth and nose with a tissue or elbow when coughing or sneezing.
 - Proper disposal of tissues and performing hand hygiene immediately afterward.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- PPE, including gloves, masks, aprons, and eye protection, will be provided to staff and participants as required.
- Staff will receive training in the correct use, removal, and disposal of PPE [NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission](#) as required.

4.4 Environmental Cleaning

- Routine cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces will be conducted in all settings where supports are provided [NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission](#).
- Cleaning protocols will be tailored to the specific needs of each setting, including residential, community, and home environments.

4. Staff Training and Competency

All staff providing Disability Support Work services will complete infection control training, including the NDIS Infection Control Training module available at [Infection, Prevention and Control – Disability Settings](#), covering:

- Fundamentals of infection prevention and control.
- Use of PPE.
- Recognising and responding to signs of infection.

Refresher training will be provided annually, with additional training as needed based on emerging infection risks.

5. Participant and Visitor Engagement

Participants will be informed about IPC practices and encouraged to actively participate in their implementation.

Information will be provided in accessible formats to ensure understanding.

Visitors will be required to adhere to IPC protocols, including hand hygiene and PPE use, as appropriate.

6. Outbreak Management

In the event of an outbreak, the following steps will be taken:

- Immediate isolation of affected individuals.
- Notification of relevant health authorities as per state and national guidelines.
- Implementation of enhanced IPC measures, including increased cleaning and PPE usage.

- Regular monitoring and reporting of the situation.

Staff will be trained in outbreak response procedures as required, including the use of PPE and communication protocols.

7. Related Legislation and Documents

NDIS Practice Standards and Quality Indicators.

Public Health Act 2005 (QLD).

Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare (2019).

8. Policy Status and Review

Regular audits of IPC practices will be conducted to ensure compliance with this policy and identify areas for improvement.

Feedback from staff, participants, and stakeholders will be sought and used to inform continuous improvement.

This policy will be reviewed annually or more frequently if required by changes in legislation or emerging infection risks.

I have read this Infection Prevention and Control Policy and agree to abide by it and its terms.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Reviewed: 7th September 2025

Next review date: 7th September 2026

Responsible officer: Elizabeth Spash

(TLS Director)