

Early Childhood Education Directorate

Convictions and Significant Enforcement Actions

Nominated Supervisor	Ms Linda Hubbard
Service Name	Chelmsford Drive Early Learning Centre
Type of Service	Centre based education and care service
Action Taken	<p>Prosecution action against Ms Linda Hubbard for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one offence of failing to ensure that medication is not administered to a child being educated and cared for by the service unless the medication is administered in accordance with the regulations – clause 93(3) of the <i>Education and Care Services National Regulations (NSW)</i>.
Date of conviction	1 February 2018
Sentence	Plea of guilty entered. No conviction was recorded. Ms Hubbard was placed on a good behaviour bond for two years under section 10(1)(b) of the <i>Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999</i>

Proven offence:

An enrolled child was required to take 0.5mg of a prescribed medication at around 1:00pm. A second medication, with a dosage of ¼ to a ½ tablet could be administered when required.

On 16 November 2015, in breach of the service’s medication policy, an educator administered a prescribed tablet to a four year old child. The educator administered the wrong tablet (a whole tablet of the second medication instead of 0.5mg of the first medication), resulting in an overdose. During the afternoon, the child started showing signs of lethargy however, staff did not take action or contact the ambulance as they were not aware that there had been an overdose.

When the child’s mother attended the service to collect the child, it became apparent that the child had been given the wrong medication. The child was subsequently admitted to hospital with low blood pressure.

Ms Linda Hubbard, in her capacity as a nominated supervisor, failed to ensure that medication was administered to the child in accordance with the regulations.