



Illness within the Setting

Statement of Intent:

The setting aims to promote the good health of children by taking appropriate measures to help prevent the spread of infection.

Policy aim:

Children that are unwell or infectious should not attend the setting to reduce the risk of infection to other children and practitioners. "Department of Health Guidance on infection control in schools and nurseries" Public Health England

Procedures:

- Children with an illness that could be infectious should remain absent for the minimum period of time stated in the 'Department of Health Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and Nurseries'.
- It is at the Managers discretion whether children who have not been given prescribed medication before attending Nursery are allowed to come into the setting.
- An infection notice should be clearly displayed for parents / carers if there have been cases of infectious illnesses in the setting, for example Impetigo or Chicken Pox. Pregnant women or anyone known to be at significant risk from infectious illness should be informed, whilst having due regard for confidentiality. The setting will contact the local Public Health England with any notifiable diseases or illness e.g. meningitis
- Children that become unwell at the Nursery will be assessed by a qualified first aider and cared for appropriately at the setting whilst a parent / carer or emergency contact is telephoned and arrangements made for the child's collection. If there is a risk of infection, it may be necessary for the child to be separated sensitively from other children where possible.
- In the case of emergency treatment being required the parent / carer /emergency contact will be contacted immediately and informed of any action that has, or is being taken.
- If it is not an emergency situation but further advice needs to be sought, then NHS 111 can be contacted for advice. An incident/ illness form must be completed.
- It may be necessary for further medical assistance to be sought. The most senior practitioner on duty is responsible for arranging for the contact of the emergency services, and any subsequent action that is necessary.
- If we have reason to believe that any child is suffering from a notifiable disease, we would take appropriate action and inform Ofsted. Advice will be obtained from

Public Health England on 0345 8942944 (out of hours 08449670069) and Ofsted informed of any action taken. Notification should be made as soon as reasonably practical, but in any event within 14 days of the incident occurring.

- If a child older than 6 months temperature rises to 39 degrees whilst in the setting the parent will be informed, alongside any other symptoms they are presenting and appropriate action will be taken to try and bring the temperature down. The child will be monitored for up three hours, depending on how the child is presenting. For example, if a child has multiple symptoms e.g. high temperature, vomiting/ rash, parents will be asked to collect their child.
- If a child older than 6 months temperature is 40 degrees or more at any point then the parent/carer will be called for automatic collection.
- If a child's temperature is 40 degrees or more, and parents / emergency contacts are unable to be contacted, the senior practitioner on duty will contact the emergency services and follow their advice, carrying out any subsequent action as necessary. Details of the call and advice will be documented by the practitioner on an incident form.

A list of guidance on infection control can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

Links to:

- Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage (2017) DfE 'The safeguarding and welfare requirements'