



## Children with allergies, infections or sickness policy

### Sickness and infection

If your child is unwell they will be better cared for in their own home with a parent than coming into a busy environment and in contact with other children.

**We are happy to care for children with minor coughs and colds but not for children who are very unwell, infectious or running a high temperature. If your child has had diarrhoea or sickness in the last 48 hours please do not bring them, but call and let us know.**

If your child becomes ill whilst in our care we will make them as comfortable as possible, isolate them from the other children if necessary and reassure them. We will contact you immediately and continue to care for your child until you arrive. In an emergency an ambulance will be called, see our Medical Procedures policy.

We are happy to administer prescribed medication - please see our Administering Medicine Policy, however, please note we will not give Calpol or Calprofen or any other non-prescribed medication as this can mask serious illnesses such as meningitis but we will call you if your child's temperature is 38 degrees or above (we use a digital ear thermometer). Your child will then need to be collected and we advise that you see a doctor before returning to our setting. We will refuse admittance to a child who has a contagious infection, has a high temperature, sickness or diarrhoea.

If your doctor recommends your child takes Calpol or Calprofen to reduce their temperature and you would like us to administer it, you will need to get it on prescription from your child's doctor.

Any time taken off as a result of illness when your child would normally have attended will still require payment at normal agreed rates as we will have planned for the relevant staff ratios, care and food for that day.

Please see below for more detailed information on specific illnesses and exclusion periods:

- Chicken Pox - 6 days from appearance of the rash (i.e. last spot) & if all spots have dried.
- Hand foot and mouth – 3 days from appearance of the spots or until the child is well.
- Measles - 7 days from appearance of rash, if child is well.
- Mumps - 5 days from onset of swollen glands.
- Rubella - 5 days from appearance of rash.
- Impetigo - until lesions are crusted/or healed.
- Head Lice - can only return once thoroughly treated.

- Slapped cheek virus - until child is physically well and rash has disappeared.
- Tonsillitis - until child is physically well.
- Conjunctivitis - when eyes are totally clear of infection
- Sickness and Diarrhoea - 48 hours clear of any illness
- Scarlet Fever & Whooping Cough - 5 days from commencing antibiotics
- Dysentery/Diphtheria - until child is well.
- Jaundice/Polio - until child is well.
- Tuberculosis/Influenza - until child is well.

We will inform other parents of any infectious outbreaks of illnesses and we will ensure our cleaning and hygiene practices are stepped up during any outbreaks.

We hold on file the Public Health England guide on infection control in childcare settings and will inform Public Health of any notifiable diseases such as:

- Scarlet Fever
- Typhoid
- Tuberculosis
- Whooping cough
- Diphtheria
- Hepatitis A
- 
- Hepatitis B, & C
- Meningitis / Septicaemia
- Meningitis due to other bacteria
- Meningitis viral
- Mumps

The document can also be seen here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/infection-control-in-schools-poster>

### **Children with allergies**

Please tell us on the registration form whether your child suffers from any known allergies. If a child has an allergy we will complete a risk assessment form to detail the allergen, the nature of the reaction and how to deal with it, how to prevent or control contact with the allergen. This will be kept with the child's files and an overview displayed on our Medical History and Allergies form for all staff to see.

We do not use nuts or nut products within the setting.

Please see our Administering Medicine policy for more information on how we store and support the use of life saving or invasive medicine for children with allergies.

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