



## Health Procedures - Poorly Children

***If your child is unwell upon arrival at nursery we reserve the right to refuse them entry to protect our community and vulnerable staff.***

- If a child appears unwell during the day e.g. If the child has a raised temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – the manager or key person calls the parents and asks them to collect the child, or send a known carer to collect them on their behalf.
- If a child has a raised temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing, sponging their heads with cool water, but kept away from draughts.
- A child's temperature is taken using a 'fever scan' kept in the First Aid Box
- If the child's temperature does not go down, and is worryingly high we hold an emergency supply of Calpol which may be given after first gaining verbal consent from the parent where possible. This is to reduce the risk of febrile convulsions, particularly for babies. Parents' sign a calpol administration consent form when they collect their child.
- In some cases the Parents'/carers are advised to take their child to their GP before returning them to the setting;
- The setting has the right to refuse admittance to children who have a raised temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease
- In an emergency, an ambulance is called and the parent informed.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, parents are asked to keep them at home for 24 hours.
- After diarrhoea or vomiting, parents are asked to keep children home for 2 clear days following the last episode.
- Some activities such as sand and water play and self-serve snack where there is a risk of cross contamination will be suspended for the duration of some outbreak.
- The setting has information about excludable diseases and current exclusion times for parents to access.
- The setting has a list of notifiable diseases and contacts the local Health Protection Agency and Ofsted in the event of outbreak and advice will be adhered to in all cases.

### **Covid**

Children will be sent home in line with our standard sickness policy. If a child is unwell and not well enough to be at nursery we will send them home.

The new Government guidance places responsibility on the public to manage the spread of the Covid in their communities by making sensible decisions. There is no change to the government's advice, just to the law enforcing that advice. The global pandemic is not over yet, and the government is clear in their response that there is considerable uncertainty about the path that the virus will now take in the UK.

We must be careful and take sensible precautions - reducing the risk while impacting as little as possible on nursery life.

Outbreaks of illness affect how well classes and groups run. Also, we have members of our wider community and staff with vulnerable family members (and vulnerabilities themselves), so a cautious approach is needed to help keep them safe.

### **What happens now if I think my child has covid?**

Firstly we would ask you to test your child if possible, if that test is positive the government is advising people to keep their children at home for at least 5 full days and until they have had two negative test results on consecutive days, even if the child has no symptoms. Coming into nursery while positive for COVID-19 does pose a significant risk to vulnerable children and members of staff.

*"Government has removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. Adults and children who test positive are continued to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days."*

For nurseries, this places COVID-19 on a similar level as the current policy for when children have other infectious illnesses such as chicken pox or vomiting/diarrhoea. We'd hope that families would make the right choice to keep their child at home if they test positive.

### ***Nits and head lice***

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition; although in exceptional cases parents may be asked to keep the child away from the setting until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family, using current recommended treatments methods if they are found.

*Please support us to remain open we are only a small business, we rely on our families to keep children at home when poorly, to help prevent the spread of any outbreaks which may affect our opening capabilities.*

