



SICK CHILD POLICY

The health and wellbeing of children is of paramount importance and we wish to ensure that children are in nursery as often as possible, so that they have the opportunity to make the best possible progress. We wish to support all parents/carers who have any concerns about their child's wellbeing.

In order to maintain a clean and healthy environment for all our children, staff and visitors we would ask that parents/carers refrain from bringing children to school if they are sick and displaying signs of illness. The nursery recognises its responsibility to promote a culture where health issues are discussed in an open and positive way to achieve high standards.

The nursery recognises its responsibilities in providing adequate and appropriate equipment, facilities and personnel to enable suitable first aid to be given in nursery.

Aims:

- To ensure sick children are identified
- To ensure sick children are cared for appropriately
- To protect children and adults from preventable infection
- To enable staff and parents/carers to be clear about the requirements and procedures when children are unwell
- To deal efficiently and effectively emergencies that may arise while children are in our care

Procedures for Sick Children

If a child becomes ill in nursery the following procedures will be followed:

- If a child informs an adult/keyworker that they feel unwell, the adult/keyworker will inform management and a decision will be made as to whether the child is too unwell to be in nursery
- If a child is unwell they will be taken to a quiet area in playroom and a member of staff will contact parents/carers
- If contact cannot be made with parents/carers then staff will contact the emergency contacts provided by the parents/carers on the child's care plan.
- The child will be made comfortable while they wait to be collected
- If necessary, a first aider will be consulted for advice on an illness
- If parents/carers and/or emergency contacts cannot be reached the child will be made comfortable and monitored and staff will continue to try to make contact
- If a notifiable disease is suspected, a member of the senior management team will inform Public Health and follow the advice given. Care Inspectorate will also be notified if 2 or more children are diagnosed e.g. chicken pox
- In the case of an emergency when the child's health is at risk an ambulance will be called and a member of staff will accompany the child to hospital. Parents/ carers will be contacted
- If a child is off sick from nursery parents/carers are expected to ring in each morning before 9.30am or before 1.30pm for afternoon children. Failure to do so, a member of management will contact parents of absent children.

Exclusion of sick children from nursery

We understand the needs of working parents and do not aim to exclude children from nursery unnecessarily. Children with infectious or contagious diseases will be excluded for certain periods in accordance to Public Health guidance.

If a member of staff suspects that a child has an infectious or contagious disease, they will request that parents consult a doctor or pharmacist before returning the child to nursery. We recommend that no child may attend the nursery while suffering from one of the communicable diseases and they should be excluded for the minimum periods recommended. Please see guidelines to illness/communicable diseases provided by Public Health.

Should a child be absent from nursery and their learning is interrupted due to prolonged ill health for a range of reasons such as accidents or trauma, provision should be made by centre staff for home learning.

Care Standards: 3.6
HGIOELC – 2.1

This policy has been updated after consultation with staff and parent/carer

Signed

February 2021