



Illness And Infectious Diseases Policy

It is our policy to keep children safe when they are in our care, promote good health and take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection within our childcare setting.

We promote hand-washing in warm soapy water before and after eating, handling food and after using the toilet. At this minute children have their own individual towel which are washed weekly. We also have disposable towels to keep the maximum level of hygiene.

Each child will use his/her own bedding (provided by the parents) to sleep. Bedding is washed weekly or every two weeks, depending on sessions attending.

We promote the use of tissues for children with coughs and minor colds.

All spillages of bodily fluids will be cleaned up immediately and the area will be disinfected with an anti-bacterial solution.

We wear disposable gloves for the changing of soiled nappies. We discard the gloves after each use.

If a child arrives at the setting with a disease or illness we believe to be infectious or that poses a risk to the other children in the setting we will expect the child not to attend until they have been well for the recommended period of time (see below)

Fees are payable for the child's booked sessions, even if they are excluded due to an illness or infectious disease.

If a member of staff is ill or has a confirmed infectious disease, we will inform you as soon as possible and another member of staff will provide cover.

We will inform the parents of the other children in our setting if a child we care for has a diagnosed infectious disease.

Exclusions Periods

All children in our setting who are excluded due to having an illness or an infectious disease such as a severe cold or stomach upset will not be allowed to return until the specified period (see below). This is in order to minimise the risk of the transmission of an infection to other children.

- Colds and coughs: Until the child has had no fever for the last 24 hours.
- Stomach upsets/diarrhoea: Until the child has been free from illness for 48 hours.
- Confirmed infectious diseases (ie.chickenpox...): Until the child is not contagious in accordance with the West Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council Joint Policy on Infectious (Communicable) Diseases.
- We expect all children to be MMR immunised. ***If this is not the case, you must let us know asap in writing.*** Please note that if a child who is not immunised against MMR becomes in contact with measles, mumps or rubella, we can ask that child NOT to attend the premises during a 12 day period and fees are still payable.



Procedure

If a child becomes ill while at the nursery, or we believe has an infectious illness or disease, for example a severe cold or stomach upset, the following procedure will be carried out:

- contact the parents to arrange for the immediate collection of the child
- Ensure the child is excluded from the setting until they have been well for the specified period of time, or in accordance with West Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove City Council Joint Policy guide.

If we believe a child in our setting is suffering from a notifiable disease, identified as such in the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988, we will act on advice given by the Health Protection Agency and inform Ofsted of any action taken.