

SICK CHILD POLICY

We believe in providing a healthy environment for children to thrive in & always ensure the health & safety of all children is our paramount concern. We ensure that children that are not fit for nursery are not admitted & parents are made aware of the importance of ensuring sick children are not permitted into the nurseries care. Particular attention will always be paid to children who become ill, whilst at nursery.

To promote all children's health in relation to sickness & ailments, we adhere to follow the following points:-

- Children with head lice are not excluded from the setting, but parents must ensure children are to be treated as soon as they are detected to remedy the condition & to prevent the spread of infestation. Parents are notified if there is a case of head lice in the setting & are given personal up to date advice on how to detect & where to get treatment & advice.
- Parents are notified if there is an 'outbreak' of illness or infection after seeking advice from the Health Protection Unit, so correct information can be sought to pass on to parents. All settings display the HPU poster which offers support & guidance around children's infectious & communicable diseases.
- HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) may affect children or families attending the setting. Staff may or may not be informed about it. Children or families are not excluded because of HIV, if a child who attends the setting is non to have HIV or similar virus an Individual Healthcare Plan may be devised & risk monitored in line with company's policies & procedures.
- Good hygiene practice concerning the clearing of any spilled bodily fluids is carried out at all times following our procedures in this matter.
- Children are encouraged to adopt good hygiene practices to prevent the spread of infections.
- Ofsted is notified of any infectious diseases that a qualified medical person considers 'notifiable'.
- Children with asthma always have on nursery premises suitable recommended medications & inhaler units (according to their Individual Healthcare Plans). Parents will be given advice on the assistance the setting will need in order to ensure their child's health is protected.
- All parents will be asked to notify the staff of children's illnesses pass & present.
- All children with an illness or ailment will have an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) completed before commencement to assist staff with the child's individual cares, these maybe completed with the assistance of another professional, such as the child's allocated nurse or expert in this field. These IHP's may contain consent for staff to dispense regular medication in accordance with the company's policies & procedures.

- All staff will be notified of child's allergies & usual reactions. These will be recorded using various methods including Allergy forms which are located in designated areas within the settings.
- Staff may seek medical advice from outside agencies around the cares required by children with illness/medical conditions.
- All parents will give written consent in nursery Medication Books for staff to administer medications. This consent must include the date, name of child, type of medication, dose & time required. Staff may question & seek advice if unsure.

If a child becomes ill, whilst in our care, the nursery will take the following steps:

- The child will be made comfortable in a quiet, calm place & supported by a staff member.
- Reassurance and affection will be given to the child.
- The Childcare Manager/Coordinator/supervisor will be alerted and will check the child's condition.
- The child with a raised temperature will be cooled down via various methods in accordance with our procedures.
- Planned medicine will be administered if needed & recorded in the appropriate manner for nursery records.
- Pain relief will be administered if needed & prior written consent has been given, parents will be notified of this to prevent overdoses. Nursery Calpol can be given if written consent has already been obtained & further telephone consent has been obtained. There is a clear written procedure around the dispensing of Nurseries Calpol in the event of an emergency.
- Where appropriate, the child's parent/carer will be contacted. If neither parent/carer can be contacted the emergency numbers on the registration forms will be used. The parent will be asked for the child to be collected.

Our policy for the exclusion of ill or infectious children is known to parents.

- We do not provide care for children who are unwell, have a temperatures, sickness and diarrhoea, or who have an infectious disease. Children who are suffering from sickness or diarrhoea must be clear from symptoms for 48 hrs depending of severity.
- Any child prescribed antibiotics for an infection of any kind will not be permitted to attend the nursery until they have had 24 hours' worth of dosage to minimise the spreading of infection & for safety in the event of adverse reactions.
- In case of any 'outbreaks' of communicable diseases we take advice from the Health Protection Unit (HPU) in respect of any further action which needs to be taken.
- Any 'notifiable' disease a child from this setting may be suffering from, will be reported to the HPU, Ofsted & if appropriate a letter sent home to each parent.
- 'Notifiable' diseases include: Meningitis, Mumps, Hepatitis, Diphtheria, Measles, Rubella, Whooping Cough, Scarlet Fever, Typhoid, Tuberculosis (this list is not exhaustive)

Documentation & Records

The nursery will ensure they have the following documentation to ensure the health & well-being of the children in its care.

- Names, addresses and telephone numbers of parents and names & telephone numbers of adults authorised to collect children from setting;
- The names and telephone numbers of emergency contacts in case of children's illness or accidents;
- Any allergies, dietary requirements and illnesses of individual children;
- The times of attendance of children, staff, volunteers and visitors;
- Accidents and medicine administration records;
- Consents for outings, administration of medication, emergency treatment; and Incidents.
- Individual Healthcare Plans, plus contact details of any medical practitioner/consultant that delivers medical care to the child.

**THIS POLICY WAS ADOPTED IN: JUNE 2007
REVIEWED ANNUALLY**