

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND SICKNESS POLICY

Policy Statement

We provide care for healthy children and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic substance and through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections.

Procedure for Children with Allergies

- When parents/ carers start their children at our setting they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on their registration form.
- If a child has an allergy, a healthcare plan will be completed with the following details:
 - The allergen
 - The nature of the allergic reaction
 - What to do in case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how to use it
 - Control measures – how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen
- This form will be kept with the day care records and a copy will be displayed on the notice board where staff can see it
- If preventative medicines are required (EpiPen/inhaler) a separate box with their photo on will be kept in the medicine box with medication and a copy of the healthcare plan
- Parents/carers or health care professionals will train staff in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction
- No nuts or nut products will be used in the setting
- Parents/carers are made aware so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in, for example for a special occasion such as a birthday.

Procedures for Children who are Sick or Infectious

- If children appear unwell during the day – have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – the manager will call the parents or designated carer to ask them to collect the child
- If a child has a temperature, they will be kept cool until they are collected
- Parents are advised to take their child to the doctors before returning to pre-school; we can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48hrs before returning to the pre-school
- After sickness and diarrhoea, parents are asked to keep children at home for 48hrs after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea
- The pre-school has a poster displayed detailing excludable diseases and current exclusion times.

(for more information on common childhood illnesses and exclusion times go to:-

<http://www.patient.co.uk/health/school-exclusion-times>)

If a child becomes seriously ill and needs emergency assistance whilst at pre-school, the following steps would be taken:-

- The lead person will call the emergency services (999) and then continue to try to get hold of a parent or carer
- One member of staff (preferably the key person) will stay with the child in a quiet place away from the rest of the group
- The remaining adults will stay with the rest of the children, keeping the setting as normal and calm as possible for the children
- If the parents have not arrived in time then a member of staff will accompany the child to hospital in the ambulance.

Reporting of Notifiable Diseases

- If a child or adult is diagnosed with a notifiable disease under the Public Health (infectious diseases) Regulations 1988, the GP or the setting will report this to the Health Protection Agency.

Accidents & Injuries

- The pre-school will notify Ofsted and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board of any serious accident, injury to, or the death of, any child whilst in their care, and act on any advice given. Notification will be made as soon as is practicable possible but in any event within 14 days of the incident occurring.
- The pre-school will follow the October 2013 changes to HSE (Health & Safety Executive) guidance on RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases & Dangerous Occurrences Regulations).
- Parents will be notified as soon as possible if their child suffers any head and/or facial injury; gash or wound; fractured or broken limb, or any other serious injury, whilst at pre-school.
- A child may be refused entry to the pre-school until he/she has been checked over by a doctor if he/she arrives at the pre-school with a serious wound or injury.
- In the case of an accident/injury happening at pre-school the accident log must be completed and signed by the first aider, witness and parent. The parents must sign the log to acknowledge the entry. Details to be included are the child's name, details of the accident or injury, where, when, how and the time the accident or injury occurred and details of first aid treatment given. These records will be kept separate to the children's progress records and will only be accessible to those who would need to know.
- A head injury form will be sent home with any child who received a bumped head, whilst at pre-school.
- If a child has deliberately injured another child, then an incident log must be completed and signed by the parent, whose child caused the injury, so that they are aware of what their child has done.

Existing Injuries

- If a child arrives at pre-school with an injury, the parent will be asked to complete an existing injury form with a member of staff, which the parent must sign to acknowledge the entry. This will be stored in the accident/incident file.

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 until the infestation has cleared
- On identifying cases of head lice, all parents/carers are informed and asked to check their child's head and to treat if nits or lice are found.

Date Policy Implemented *April 2015*

Signed



Name and Role

Alex Barter, Committee Management Chair

Date of Last Review

November 2022

Date of Next Review

November 2023