

ILLNESS AND INFECTION CONTROL POLICY

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I aim to protect children from illness and infection and act promptly if a child is taken ill. I have also considered what will happen if I am ill.

Early Years and Foundation Stage (EYFS) and the Childcare Register Requirements: *Promoting good health - The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents and/or carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.*

I do everything I can to protect children from illness and infection. I will complete an Illness Record Form if a child falls ill during his/her care. Information about infection and exclusion is shared with parents as follows:

- I provide tissues, hand wipes and a lidded bin for children to use independently; I support little ones with wiping their noses and encourage them to 'blow';
- I protect children around animals and pets - please see my Animal/Pet Policy;
- If a child has been sick or has diarrhoea, the exclusion period is 48 hours;
- If a child is unable to participate in normal daily routines, is irritable, continuously crying or requires more attention than I can provide without impeding the health, safety and wellbeing of other children in my care, or is not well enough to go to other provisions, then he/she should be at home with his/her parents;
- I will not normally exclude for head lice; however, I ask that hair is tied up and treated promptly;
- A child is welcome back after illness when they can eat, drink, sleep and play normally;
- If a child has a notifiable disease, a highly infectious condition or is taking the first doses of antibiotics, he/she will be excluded.

Note: *Parents, please do not bring your child if you know they are ill and cannot join in with the normal routine. Also, do not ask me to make doorstep decisions about whether to accept a child or not - please ring first.*

PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED IF A CHILD FALLS ILL OR IS INFECTIOUS

I will continue to care for the child, allowing him/her to rest or sleep and isolating him/her if necessary. I will then:

- administer first aid, and, if appropriate, medication with prior written parental permission;

- take care when cleaning up bodily fluids, toys, materials etc. to guard against cross contamination;
- contact the child's doctor, NHS Direct or ring 999 / 112 if I am concerned;
- make every effort to contact parents. If parents are not available, I will make every effort to contact the child's emergency contacts. Parents will be required to provide emergency contact information upon induction. This will be for details of up to 3 emergency contacts who can collect and make decisions for their child if they cannot be contacted.
- Call an ambulance if necessary.

Note: *I might not be able to go with a child to hospital as I have other children to consider.*

Confidentiality will be maintained where possible. I will normally care for a child with a less serious infectious condition, but reserve the right to ask permission from other parents whose children may be affected and take a decision based on safety and health concerns for me and other children – please see my Confidentiality Policy for more information.

Allergies and intolerances: Please see my Healthy Eating Policy for more information about allergy and intolerance related symptoms, which do not require exclusion.

PROCEDURE IN CASE OF ILLNESS OR INFECTION ON OUTINGS

I aim to ensure the safety of all the children and follow advice from the emergency services where appropriate. I will do everything possible to contact parents/emergency contacts to meet the child. If I have to leave other children with an emergency carer, I will make every effort to notify parents (or children's emergency contacts if parents are not available) as quickly as possible.

PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED IF I AM ILL OR INFECTIOUS

If I am ill, I will contact emergency services (if necessary) and make every effort to contact parents to collect their child. If I am taken ill on an outing, I will ask the nearest responsible adult to help care for children, while my emergency back-up is being contacted.

Note: *If I am unable to communicate, I carry children's emergency contact information with me on outings.*

REPORTING A NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

It is the duty of the attending doctor to decide if a disease is notifiable or not, and then to inform the Local Authority. It is my duty to inform Ofsted, recording the details of the person to whom the information was

given and to follow advice from the Health Protection Agency (HPA - www.hpa.org.uk) about keeping adults and children safe. I might be required to write to parents informing them of the situation or close my provision if there is a significant risk to me or other children.

If you have any questions about my policy/procedures or would like to make any comments, please ask.

SIGNED

DATED
