

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: 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.

6.2 Managing children who are sick, infectious, or with allergies

Policy statement

East Leake Pre-School Playgroup aims to provide care for healthy children through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic trigger.

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

- East Leake Pre-School Playgroup can refuse admittance to children who appear unwell, have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- If children appear unwell during the day – for example, if they have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – the Manager or Deputy Manager will call the parent(s)/carer and ask them to collect the child, or to send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.
- The child's temperature is taken using a forehead thermometer strip, kept in the first aid box.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool by removing top clothing and sponging their heads with cool water, but kept away from draughts.
- East Leake Pre-School Playgroup does not hold on the premises and will not administer Calpol or other similar analgesics.
- In extreme cases of emergency, an ambulance is called and the parent/carer informed.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, East Leake Pre-School Playgroup asks parents/carers to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting.
- After diarrhoea and/or sickness, East Leake Pre-School Playgroup asks parents/carers to keep children at home for 48 hours following the last episode.
- Some activities, such as sand and water play, and self-serve snacks where there is a risk of cross-contamination may be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.
- East Leake Pre-School Playgroup has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is obtainable from: www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1194947358374 and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.

Reporting of ‘notifiable diseases’

- If a child or adult is diagnosed as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the GP will report this to Public Health England.
- When East Leake Pre-School Playgroup becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, our Manager or Nominated Person will inform Ofsted and Public Health England, and act on any advice given.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure

- HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis A, B and C, are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults. East Leake Pre-School Playgroup will:
 - Wear single-use vinyl gloves and aprons when changing children’s nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
 - Bag soiled clothing for parents to take home for cleaning.
 - Clear spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit using mild disinfectant solution and mops; any cloths used are disposed of with the clinical waste.
 - Clean any tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit using a disinfectant.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition. However, in exceptional cases, such as if the infestation is not treated by the parent(s)/carer, East Leake Pre-School Playgroup may ask a parent/carer to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, East Leake Pre-School Playgroup will inform all parents/carers and ask them to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.

Procedures for children with allergies

- When children start at the setting, East Leake Pre-School Playgroup will ask their parents/carers if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Registration Form.
- If a child has an allergy, East Leake Pre-School Playgroup will complete a risk assessment form to detail the following:
 - The allergen (i.e. the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc).

- The nature of the allergic reactions (e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc).
 - What to do in case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how it is to be used (e.g. Epipen).
 - Control measures - such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen.
 - Review measures.
- This risk assessment form is kept in the child's personal file in a locked filing cabinet, and a copy is displayed where the staff can see it.

Insurance requirements for children with allergies and disabilities

- If necessary, East Leake Pre-School Playgroup's insurance will include children with any disability or allergy, but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below. For children suffering life threatening conditions, or requiring invasive treatments, written confirmation from East Leake Pre-School Playgroup's insurance provider must be obtained to extend the insurance.
- At all times, East Leake Pre-School Playgroup ensures that the administration of medication is compliant with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Oral medication:
 - Asthma inhalers are now regarded as 'oral medication' by insurers and so documents do not need to be forwarded to East Leake Pre-School Playgroup's insurance provider.
 - Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.
 - East Leake Pre-School Playgroup must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication. Prescription medication must have the dispensing label attached showing the child's name, the name of the medicine, the dosage instructions, how to administer it and how frequently.
 - East Leake Pre-School Playgroup adheres to all risk assessment procedures for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
 - East Leake Pre-School Playgroup must have the parents' or guardians' prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file. It is not necessary to forward copy documents to our insurance provider.
- Life-saving medication and invasive treatments:

These include adrenaline injections (Epipens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc) or invasive treatments such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy).

 - East Leake Pre-School Playgroup must have:
 1. A letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication, if any, is to be administered;
 2. Written consent from the parent or guardian allowing our staff to administer medication; and

- 3. Proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children's nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse.
 - Copies of all three documents relating to these children must first be sent to the Pre-School Learning Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.
 - East Leake Pre-School Playgroup will not accept on the premises or administer any life-saving medication or invasive treatments until written confirmation has been received from our insurers.
- **Key person for special needs children requiring assistance with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.:**
- Prior written consent must be obtained from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
 - The key person must have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include receiving appropriate instructions from parents or guardians.
 - Copies of all letters relating to these children must first be sent to the Pre-School Learning Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.
 - East Leake Pre-School Playgroup will not permit the key person to give treatment and/or medication to the child until written confirmation has been received from our insurers.
- If East Leake Pre-School Playgroup is unsure about any aspect, we will contact the Pre-School Learning Alliance Insurance Department on 020 7697 2585 or email membership@pre-school.org.uk

This policy was adopted by

East Leake Pre-School Playgroup *(name of provider)*

On

15th September 2016 *(date)*

Date to be reviewed

September 2017 *(date)*

Signed on behalf of the provider

Susanna de Jongh

Name of signatory

Chair

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)

Other useful Pre-school Learning Alliance publications

- Good Practice in Early Years Infection Control (2009)
- Medication Administration Record (2013)