

Children's Sickness Policy and Procedures

Aims

To provide a healthy and safe environment for all children.

Policy

We cannot accept any child who is unwell or who has had a serious infectious illness.

Procedure

Control of illness

There may be occasions when a child is not so ill as to require medical care but nevertheless daycare would be unsuitable. If a child arrives at the setting and the Play Leader does not consider him/her well enough to attend, the parent/carers will be advised accordingly. We will make every effort to stop the spread of infection within the setting but can only do this with the co-operation of parent/carers. Here is a list of the most common childhood ailments that are infectious and we have included the recommended exclusion period.

- Coughs, colds and sore throats – we appreciate that children often pick up cold viruses without being ill and accept they do not need to stay away from the setting, however, if they have a raised temperature, continued cough, or are unable to eat, then exclusion will be necessary.
- Any child with sickness or diarrhoea must be kept away from the setting for at least 48 hours after the last episode of sickness and / or diarrhoea
- Temperatures – any child with a raised temperature, even if not accompanied by any other symptoms, should be kept away.

Further information as to the exclusion period for children regarding Infection Control can be found on the Government's Health Protection in schools and other childcare facilities website within the Exclusion table appendix available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities>

Illness - action for staff

- If a child becomes unwell during a session, make them comfortable in a quiet place and keep under observation, noting any changes in condition. Very sick children will not be left unattended. If there is a danger of vomiting, give a bowl or bucket.
- Contact the child's parent/carer and give them precise details of the child's condition. Discuss with them the best course of action, eg. to collect the child.
- Ask the parent/carer to keep them at home until s/he has recovered.
- If a parent/carer says that their child has been unwell but now seems to have recovered, ask for exact details, remind them that our policy is to ask them not to send a child to the setting for 48 hours after the final episode.

Ongoing medical needs

For chronic illnesses e.g. asthma or children with special medical needs, we will administer, as necessary, any medication. A record will be made of the time and parents will be asked to acknowledge this with their signature. This will be in accordance with the setting's **Administration of Medication Policy**.



Serious illness

If a child should suddenly become seriously ill during the duration of the group, we will immediately seek medical attention. The setting will follow its ***Serious Accident and Emergency Procedure*** in the **First Aid Procedure**.

Date of last review: February 2019

Next review due: August 2020

Approved by: Meriel Rosser

Role of Signatory: Committee Member