

Shadwell Childcare

Sickness Policy for Children

Adopted on: March 2022

Date to be reviewed: March 2023

Children's Sickness Policy

Statement of Intent

Our Nursery is committed to providing the highest standard of care for all children at all times. This incorporates regulation of any sickness / illness for the individual child, other children within the nursery and for staff.

Our Aim

Our aim is to provide the best possible care for all of our children. We are unable to accept sick children at nurseries especially when they are contagious to others. We also understand that when a child is unwell they need care and cuddles and whilst our staff will always try to ensure this happens we accept that children need their parents / carers and to be at home whilst they recover.

Parents responsibility

It is the parent's responsibility to ensure their child does not attend the nursery and put other children/staff at risk. If a parent continually sends a sick or unwell child to nursery we will be forced to review the child's place. **You are requested to report all absences to the office**, this allows the setting to manage illness and make other parents aware of any symptoms for any contagious illnesses.

You will be contacted by a member of staff to collect your child if they become ill while in our care. The child will be cared for by a member of staff in a quiet area away from other children until parents / carers arrive to collect them. We will ensure that they are kept comfortable as possible. Please ensure that you collect them as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to ensure that we have up to date contact details for yourself and emergency contacts.

Guidelines

Please use the following guidelines before bringing your child back to nursery:

- Colds and Flu: The child should have a normal temperature and feel fit and healthy
- Conjunctivitis: Cream must have been received from the doctor and treatment should have commenced. Eyes should not have any discharge from them (usually 48hours).
- Chicken Pox: All spots must be completely scabbed over (usually 5 days incubation)
- Impetigo: Medical advice must have been sought, sores must not be weeping.

- Hand, Foot and Mouth: All sores must have been treated by a doctor, sores should not be weeping
- Head lice: Children will not initially be sent home however parents will be notified and we would request the child refrains from returning until the treatment process is underway. A child's hair must be tied back (if long enough) to minimise spread.
Letters will be sent home to all children. We recommend the family is treated to ensure treatment is effective.
- Measles: 4 days from onset of rash and recovered
- Ringworm/Threadworm: 24 hr exclusion period while treatment is started.
Threadworm – treatment for whole family advised.
- Scarlet Fever: Exclude until 24hrs of antibiotic treatment completed.
- Sickness/diarrhoea: At least 48 hours should pass since the last bout.
- Slapped Cheek: None (once rash has developed)
- Temperature: The normal temperature for a child is 37C, if any child's temperature reaches 38C or above parents will be contacted for collection
- Unknown rashes Medical advice should be sought
- Broken limbs / Stitches: According to medical advice and based on the individual child this will be discussed with parents. A Risk Assessment may be required and agreed with all parties concerned before a child can return.
- Covid-19: 5 days from onset of symptoms or a positive test.

Guidance on other illnesses is available as needed.

If your child needs to receive medication while in the care of the setting please see the policy regarding administration of medication. Please note that medication cannot be given that is not prescribed including calpol / Ibuprofen. Medication will only be administered in line with the GP guidance and must be labelled with the child's information.

If a child has a notifiable illness, serious injury resulting in disability; or death of a child the nursery will contact the Department of Health and Ofsted.

Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and other Childcare Settings is available for reference.

Covid-19

When a child becomes unwell whilst at nursery we will contact the parent/carer and ask for the child to be collected as a priority, usually within 45 minutes where possible.

Where a child displays a temperature, loss of taste or smell or a new cough we would ask for you to use a LFT. If negative the child should remain off the setting until they feel well enough to attend. If the test is positive we ask that they remain off a minimum of 5 days and longer if symptoms remain. A further LFT can be taken on day 6 to confirm a negative result if you are unsure.

If you do not wish to use a LFT but the child has symptoms we ask you to keep them off for 5 days.