

## 6. Sickness and Illness

Children should not be attending the club if they are unwell. If a child is unwell then they will prefer to be at home with their parent(s) rather than at club with their peers. We will follow these procedures to ensure the welfare of all children within the club:

- If a child becomes ill during the club day, their parent(s) will be contacted and asked to pick their child up as soon as possible. During this time the child will be cared for in a quiet, calm area with their key person
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as Coronavirus, sickness and diarrhoea, or Hand, foot and mouth they should not return to nursery as per our communicable diseases and exclusion timescales
- If a child has been administered a dose of calpol/nurofen (or another medication of a similar nature), they will not be admitted to nursery on the same day. It is essential that parents inform the nursery should their child have had such medication administered.
- If a child has been administered a dose of Emergency Medication whilst at nursery, they must be collected within 1 hour and exclusion rules where applicable.
- It is vital that we follow the advice given to us by our registering authority and Public Health England and exclude specific contagious conditions, e.g. Coronavirus, sickness and diarrhoea, conjunctivitis and chicken pox to protect other children in the nursery. Illnesses of this nature are very contagious, and it is exceedingly unfair to expose other children to the risk of an infection
- If a contagious infection is identified in the nursery, parents will be informed to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness. All equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child will be cleaned and sterilised thoroughly to reduce the spread of infection.
- It is important that children are not subjected to the rigours of the nursery day, which requires socialising with other children and being part of a group setting, when they have first become ill and require a course of antibiotics.

Our policy, therefore, is to exclude children on antibiotics for the first 12 hours of the course.

- WHERE THERE IS MORE THAN ONE CASE OF ANY ILLNESS THE EXCLUSION PERIOD WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE NURSERY MANAGER TO AID THE CONTROL OF INFECTION.
- The nursery has the right to refuse admission to a child who is unwell. This decision will be taken by the manager on duty and is non-negotiable
- If a parent finds that their child has head lice, we would be grateful if they could inform the nursery so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair.

### **Meningitis procedure**

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has meningitis, the nursery manager should contact the Infection Control (IC) Nurse for their area, and Ofsted. The IC Nurse will give guidance and support in each individual case. If parents do not inform the nursery, we will be contacted directly by the IC Nurse and the appropriate support will be given.

### **Coronavirus procedure**

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has confirmed Coronavirus, the nursery will follow the latest guidance from DFE, Public Health England and their Covid-19 Policy and Risk Assessment.

### **Transporting children to hospital procedure**

- If the sickness is severe, call for an ambulance immediately. DO NOT attempt to transport the sick child in your own vehicle
- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, contact the parent and arrange to meet them at the hospital
- The Designated Person onsite must approve the transporting of children to hospital and they should inform a member of the Head Office Early Years Team.

- A senior member of staff must accompany the child and collect together registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter.
- Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance.