



Health procedures – Sickness Policy

- If a child appears unwell during the day, for example has a raised temperature, sickness, diarrhoea* and/or pains, particularly in the head or stomach then the setting contacts parents and asks them to collect the child or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.
- Parents are advised to seek medical advice before returning them to the setting; the setting can refuse admittance to children who have a raised temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours.
- After diarrhoea or vomiting, parents should keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.
- The setting has information about excludable diseases and exclusion times.
- The room lead notifies their manager if there is an outbreak of an infection (affects more than 3-4 children) and keeps a record of the numbers and duration of each event. Some activities such as sand and water play, and self-serve snack, may be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.
- The setting manager has a list of notifiable diseases and contacts Public Health England (PHE) and Ofsted in the event of an outbreak.
- If staff suspect that a child who falls ill whilst in their care is suffering from a serious disease that may have been contracted abroad such as Ebola, immediate medical assessment is required. The management team calls NHS111 and informs parents.
- In an emergency an ambulance is called, and the parents are informed.

* ***Diarrhoea is defined as 3 or more liquid or semi-liquid stools in a 24-hour period.***

(www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-9-managing-specific-infectious-diseases#diarrhoea-and-vomiting-gastroenteritis)

*****Paracetamol based medicines (e.g. Calpol)*** The use of paracetamol-based medicine may not be agreed in all cases. Parents must sign to say they agree to the setting administering paracetamol-based medicine in the case of high temperature on the basis that they are on their way to collect. (*Whilst the brand name Calpol is referenced, there are other products which are paracetamol or Ibuprofen based pain and fever relief*).

In the case of a raised temperature

- If a child is suspected to have a temperature, the temperature is taken and checked regularly, using an ear thermometer.
- If a child has a raised temperature, they are kept cool by removing top clothing, sponging their heads with cool water and kept away from draughts.

- If a child's temperature does not go down, and is worryingly high, then Calpol may be given after gaining verbal consent from the parent where possible. This is to reduce the risk of febrile convulsions, particularly for babies under 2 years old. Parents must acknowledge the administration of Calpol via the FAMLY app.**

Procedure for administering Paracetamol Based Medicine (e.g. Calpol)

- Open the FAMLY app and find the completed permission form.
- Check the bottle to confirm the medication is within the expiry date.
- Identify the correct dosage from the form or by checking the bottle and confirm this with a witness.
- Shake the bottle and use a syringe to draw the correct dosage.
- Another member of staff must witness the dosage being given to the child.
- Record the dosage on the FAMLY app.

HIV/AIDS 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.

- Single use vinyl gloves and aprons are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Protective rubber gloves are used for cleaning/slucing clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and bagged for parents to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using mild disinfectant solution and mops; cloths used are disposed of with clinical waste.
- Tables and other furniture or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.
- Baby mouthing toys are kept clean and plastic toys cleaned in sterilising solution regularly.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition; although in exceptional cases parents may be asked to keep the child away from the setting until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family, using current recommended treatments methods if any lice or eggs are found.

Further guidance

Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings (Public Health Agency)

https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf