

Managing Children Who Are Sick, Infectious, or with Allergies Procedures

We aim to provide care for healthy children through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections and promote health through identifying infectious diseases, allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic trigger.

We will refer to Public Health England “The Spotty Book” – notes on infectious diseases in Schools and Nurseries for guidance.

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

- 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 will call the parents and ask them to collect the child, or to send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.
- If a child has a temperature reading above 37.5°C, they are kept cool and parents will be contacted and informed that their temperature will be monitored.
- The child's temperature is taken using an ear thermometer.
- If the ear thermometer is used, the temperature of a child will be recorded each time. If the child's temperature rise to 38°C or above, we will ask the parent/carer to collect the child immediately.
- In extreme cases of emergency, an ambulance will be called and the parent informed.
- We will refuse admittance to children who have a temperature or have had sickness and/or diarrhoea within the last 48 hours or a contagious infection or disease and is believed to still be within their incubation/isolation period. Children may also be refused admittance if any child has been given non-prescribed medicines, such as paracetamol or ibuprofen, within the last 12 hours. This will be at the discretion of the Manager.
- When children have been prescribed antibiotics or had vaccinations for an infectious illness, we ask parents to keep them at home for 24 hours before returning to the setting. Children that have received newly prescribed medicine should have taken it for a minimum of 24 hours before returning to nursery (in line with parents/carer agreement).
- We refer to the Spotty Book guidance for any infectious diseases, or excludable diseases and current exclusion times. This includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.
- 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.
- If an infectious disease is identified then Spotty Book guidance will be followed.
- We will follow Somerset County Council Health and Safety Guidance when managing any blood or body fluids.

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'

- If we become aware, or are formally informed of a notifiable disease, the manager informs Ofsted and contacts Public Health England, and acts on any advice given.

Procedures for children with allergies

- When children start at the setting we ask their parent/carer if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Registration Form.
- If a child has an allergy, we 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 will be considered and all identified measures will be put in place before the child's start date is agreed.
- This risk assessment form is kept in the child's personal file and a copy is displayed where all staff can see it.
- A health care plan will also be completed.
- No nuts or nut products are used within the setting.
- Parents are made aware so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in, for example to a party.