



Sickness and Illness

Date: 08/02/2022

CEO: Sarah Watson
Headteacher: Richard Healey

Due for review:

At Bright Sparks Nursery we promote the good health of all children attending. To help keep children healthy and minimise infection, we do not expect children to attend nursery if they are unwell. If a child is unwell, it is in their best interest to be in a home environment with adults rather than at nursery with their peers. Our procedures in order to take appropriate action of children who become ill and to minimise the spread of infection we implement the following procedures:

- If a child becomes ill during the nursery day, we contact their parent(s) and ask them to pick up their child as soon as possible. During this time, we care for the child in a quiet, calm area with their key person, wherever possible
- We follow the guidance given to us by Public Health England (Health Protection in Schools and other childcare facilities) in Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and other Child Care Settings and advice from our local health protection unit on exclusion times for specific illnesses, e.g. sickness and diarrhoea, measles and chicken pox, to protect other children in the nursery.
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as **sickness and diarrhoea**, they must not return to nursery until they have been clear for at least **48 hours** from their last bout.
- We notify Ofsted as soon as possible and in all cases within 14 days of the incident where we have any child or staff member with food poisoning. We inform all parents if there is a contagious infection identified in the nursery, to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness. We thoroughly clean and sterilise all equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child to reduce the spread of infection
- We **exclude** all children on antibiotics for the first **24 hours** of the course (unless this is part of an ongoing care plan to treat individual medical conditions e.g., asthma and the child is not unwell) This is because it is important that children are not subjected to the rigours of the nursery day and in the event the child has an adverse reaction.
- We have 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
- Meningitis procedure: If a parent informs the nursery that their child has meningitis, the nursery manager will contact the Local Area Infection Control (IC) Nurse. 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. We will follow all guidance given and notify any of the appropriate authorities including Ofsted if necessary.

Periods of exclusions subject to guidance from Public Health England or other:

CHICKEN POX: Five days from onset of rash & all lesions have crusted over

CONJUNCTIVITIS: None (treatment may be require if severe)

DIARRHOEA/VOMITING: 48 hours after the last episode.

HAND FOOT AND MOUTH: None

HEAD LICE: None

IMPETIGO: Until lesions are crusted/healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.

MEASLES: Four days from onset of rash and fully recovered

MUMPS: For 5 days after the swelling first appears.

RINGWORM or THREADWORM: Not usually required, but treatment is needed.

SCARLET FEVER: Excluded until 24 hours of appropriate antibiotic treatment completed

SCABIES: Can return after first treatment

HIGH TEMPERATURE: Until temperature is normal, and the child is well for 24 hours

SLAPPED CHEEK: None

WHOOPING COUGH: Two days from staring antibiotic treatment or 21 days from onset of symptoms if no antibiotics.

If your child has an illness that is not listed here it may be necessary for us to seek guidance prior to child returning to nursery.

Public Health England occasionally provide guidance on a particular illness that is in circulation and that can cause a widespread illness in a nursery or school setting. In these circumstances we are bound to follow their guidance.

GUIDENCE FOR INFORMING PARENTS/CARING FOR A SICK CHILD:

Situation	Staff Action
A child has a temperature of 38° Celsius + for a period of 30 mins	Parent/carer will be called to advise them of the situation so that they can collect if they wish.
A child has a temperature of 39° Celsius + for a period of 30 mins	Parent/carer will be contacted to collect their child. Child then be excluded (see above)
A child has two very loose bowel movements	Parent/carer will be called to advise them of the situation so that they can collect if they wish.
A child has a third very loose bowel movements	Parent/carer will be contacted to collect their child. Child then be excluded (see above)
A child vomits	Parent/carer will be contacted to collect their child. Child then be excluded (see above)
A child has an unexplained rash/symptoms.	Parent/carer will be called to advise them of the situation so that they can collect/seek medical advice if they wish.
A child shows symptoms of a recognisable sickness	Parent/carer will be contacted to collect their child. The child will then be excluded for the appropriate time period.