

Sickness and Medication Policy

Including Procedures to follow when a Child Bumps their Head

Parents will be required to complete a medication consent form in order for us to administer prescribed medication.

Medicine should be clearly labelled and placed in the medicine box in the nursery fridge if it needs to be kept cool. It will be placed in a locked cabinet if it needs to be kept at room temperature. Inhalers should be handed to the child's key person for storage.

Staff have a duty to sign the medicine book when administering medicine and parents are obliged to sign it when collecting the child to confirm that medicine has been given.

If a child has been prescribed antibiotics by a doctor the nursery will not permit the child to attend nursery for the first 48 hours of taking the medication. Any child suffering from sickness or diarrhoea must be kept at home until they have been clear of the symptoms for 48 hours.

Contagious diseases must be notified immediately to the nursery. If the nursery manager has reasonable cause to think that a child has an infectious disease or is sufficiently unwell to require medical attention then they will refuse admission and advise that the parent take the child to the GP, or hospital if appropriate, immediately. Admission will also be refused if a child generally seems unwell enough to cope with the nursery day.

If a child needs medicine that requires technical or medical knowledge to administer it then appropriate training will be given to staff and will be specific to the individual child concerned.

We are required to notify Ofsted and/or the Local Health Protection Team of any infectious diseases that are deemed as 'notifiable' by a qualified medical person.

The nursery must be informed on the first day of any absence due to illness. If your child is absent from nursery and we are not notified we will contact you via phone or e-mail to gain a reason for their absence, this is part of our commitment to safeguarding children. If the absence is prolonged and we are still unable to contact you, then we will seek advice from outside agencies.

We need to contact parents should their child become ill during the day. Emergency contact numbers must be kept up to date. Please inform your child's key person or the nursery manager if you change any of your contact details.

If we have cause to contact a parent, the sick child will be cared for on a one-to-one basis, whenever possible, until the parent or nominated guardian is able to collect them.

Information relating to any contagious illness that a nursery child has will be posted on the parent's notice board on the kitchen door as soon as we are notified that the child has a suspected or confirmed illness.

If a child bumps their head at nursery and they have not been rendered unconscious at all, in case of a small bruise, bump or cut a cold compress will be applied to the injury. If only a very small wound is apparent, then direct pressure will be applied to control the bleeding then the wound will be cleaned and dressed. For any larger or deeper wounds an ambulance will be called as well as applying direct pressure to the wound. If the child experiences headaches or sickness medical help will be sought immediately. Parents will also be contacted immediately when a staff member has any concerns about a child's bumps to the head.

To ensure that all staff and parents are aware that a child has bumped their head the child will be given a bright wrist band to wear to make parents aware that the accident has happened. Parents will, of course, be asked to sign the accident book also which will contain all factual details of the accident.

The temperature threshold that dictates when a child is sent home is set by the local authority health protection guidelines at 37 degrees and above. The nursery has adopted a subjective approach to this, including checking a child's temperature regularly (every 15-20 minutes) over a period of time to see how it might be changing. A judgement is made if your child presents with a slightly high temperature whilst at nursery whether they are well enough to cope with the remainder of the day based on the extent of their temperature and whether they are presenting with any other symptoms. If a child's temperature is 38 degrees or above, they will automatically be sent home, in line with current Covid-19 procedures.