



Sickness and Exclusion Policy

Policy Statement

The health and wellbeing of children and staff in our setting is very important. We aim to prevent the spread of illness and infection by following clear procedures when children or staff become unwell.

Parents are asked to keep children at home if they are unwell to protect other children and staff.

Children Who Are Unwell

Children should not attend the setting if they are:

- suffering from a contagious illness
- experiencing vomiting or diarrhoea
- running a high temperature
- too unwell to take part in normal activities

If a child becomes ill during the session:

- parents or carers will be contacted immediately
 - the child will be cared for in a quiet, comfortable area
 - parents will be asked to collect the child as soon as possible
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Vomiting and Diarrhoea

Children who have had **vomiting or diarrhoea must remain at home for at least 48 hours after the last episode** before returning to the setting. This helps prevent the spread of infection.

Antibiotics

If a child has been prescribed **antibiotics**, they must remain at home until **48 hours have passed from the first dose** before returning to the setting. This ensures the medication has started to take effect and reduces the risk of spreading infection.

Infectious Illness

The setting follows recommended exclusion periods for common infectious illnesses, such as:

- chickenpox
- measles
- conjunctivitis
- impetigo
- hand, foot and mouth disease

Parents will be informed if an infectious illness occurs within the setting so they can monitor their child for symptoms.

Temperature and Fever

If a child develops a high temperature while attending the setting, parents will be contacted and asked to collect the child. Children should remain at home until they have maintained a normal temperature for 24 hours. A high temperature is anything above 37.5 and a fever will be above 38.

Medication

Medication will only be administered in line with the setting's **Medicines Policy** and with written parental consent.

Protecting Other Children

To reduce the spread of illness, the setting promotes good hygiene practices including:

- regular handwashing
- cleaning of toys and surfaces
- appropriate disposal of tissues and waste

Communication with Parents

Parents are asked to inform the setting if their child has a contagious illness so that appropriate precautions can be taken.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if guidance changes.