



## Illness Policy

### **Statement of intent**

We promote the good health of all children. We take positive steps to prevent the spread of infection and take appropriate measures when children are ill.

### **Procedure**

Parents must provide up to date contact details for use in emergencies such as illness. These should include the child's main carers as well as at least two further emergency contacts who can be called upon should the child be unwell and need to be taken home.

If a child becomes unwell or has a serious accident while at the setting we will immediately contact the parents to discuss arrangements for the child to be collected and taken home or to the doctors/hospital.

If a child develops a fever or suffers from sickness or diarrhoea while at the setting we will contact the parents/emergency contacts and request that they come to collect the child.

If a child has diarrhoea or sickness on the day that they are due to attend the setting we ask that they remain at home until they are fully recovered but for at least 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or Diarrhoea.

If a child develops a fever whilst at the setting and it has risen to 38 degrees or above we will contact the parent and request they collect their child. We ask that the child remains at home for 24 hours after the fever has subsided and they are free of fever reducing medicine for at least 8 hours.

If a child is suffering from an infectious illness such as chicken pox or scarlet fever we ask that parents notify us so that we can advise the other parents of the setting (without divulging any names) that an infectious disease/illness may be present.

We are required to notify Ofsted of certain infectious diseases. This includes cases of food poisoning which has affected 2 or more children within the setting.

We will adhere to the same guidelines in the event that we or our own children are unwell.

If a child becomes unwell while they are at our setting then they will be kept comfortable and quiet until their parents arrive to collect them.

We will follow the guidance from the Public Health England regarding ill or infectious children with the exception to:



- conjunctivitis where the child is excluded until their eyes are clear from discharge or 24 hours after treatment is started
- Threadworm where we will expect the child to be treated. They can return after treatment
- Impetigo, exclusion until lesions are crusted and healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment
- Hand foot and mouth
- Unexplained rash

If a child arrives looking or feeling unwell, we will

- Take the child's temperature. If it is 38 degrees or over then will ask that the child is taken home. During a pandemic we will require a PCR test to confirm the child has no serious illness.
- Where there is no temperature then we will monitor the child and inform the parent if they continue to seem unwell.

As a general rule, if a child is unable to participate in the normal daily routines, is irritable, continuously crying, off their food or generally just not themselves then we may require you to collect the child and keep them at home until you feel they are back to their usual selves.

We have the right to refuse a child into the setting if we feel they are unwell

We will not pick children up from school or preschool/ nursery if they are ill, unless it is not infectious to other children in our care. If we do pick children up from school at any time other than the normal finishing time, I may charge a call out fee £10 and then the normal fee per hour until they are collected.

### **Pandemics**

We will follow government recommendations, and risk assessments will be updated as and when.

**This policy and it's procedures have been written with reference to the guidelines set out by the Health Protection Agency.**

Policy adopted by Making Memories

Date: May 2018

Reviewed: January 2019, August 2021, April 2022 January 2024 January 2025

