

## 1.5.1 Sickness and Illness

EYFS: 3.44, 3.45, 3.46

At **Aplomb Day Nursery and Preschool** 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 they know well 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 published by Public Health England (Health Protection in Schools and other childcare facilities) 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<sup>1</sup>
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as diarrhoea or sickness, they **must not** return to nursery until they have been clear for **48 hours**
- 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 notify Ofsted as soon as is reasonably practical, but in any event within 14 days of the incident of any food poisoning affecting two or more children cared for on the premises
- We ask parents to keep children on antibiotics at home 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, which requires socialising with other children and being part of a group setting, when they have first become ill and require a course of antibiotics
- 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
- We make information/posters about head lice readily available and all parents are requested to regularly check their children's hair. If a parent finds that their child has head lice we would be grateful if they could inform the nursery so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair.

### Calpol (or other forms of liquid paracetamol)

It would be suggested that if a child has to have liquid paracetamol, they are not well enough to engage in the day-to-day activities at nursery.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities>

- If a child arrives at nursery and has had Calpol at home any time after **midnight**, they may be refused entry to the setting. This is at the manager's discretion dependent on the reasoning behind administering Calpol.
- If a child is sent home from nursery after having had Calpol, they should remain at home until roughly **9.30am – 10.00am** the following morning to allow their body temperature to regulate after sleep. If they do not show any signs of a temperature, they may return to nursery.
- Teething temperatures
  - The NHS states that a teething temperature will not normally rise above 38.2 degrees.

### **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 may be contacted directly by the IC Nurse and the appropriate support given. We will follow all guidance given and notify any of the appropriate authorities including Ofsted where necessary.

### **We will follow the transporting children to hospital procedure in any cases where children may need hospital treatment.**

The nursery manager/staff member must:

- Inform a member of the management team immediately
  - Call 999 for an ambulance immediately if the illness is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the unwell child in your own vehicle
  - Follow the instructions from the 999 call handler
  - Whilst waiting for the ambulance, a member of staff must contact the parent(s) and arrange to meet them at the hospital
  - Redeploy staff if necessary to ensure there is adequate staff deployment to care for the remaining children. This may mean temporarily grouping the children together
  - Arrange for the most appropriate member of staff to accompany the child taking with them any relevant information such as registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter
  - Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support following the accident.

### **Coronavirus**

If anyone becomes unwell whilst at nursery with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, we will contact their parent/carer immediately. The child will be sent home and advised to follow the COVID-19: Guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection.

Ideally, a window will be opened for ventilation. Everyone must wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds with soap and running water or use hand sanitiser after any contact with someone who is unwell.

In an emergency staff will call a manager and 999 if they are seriously ill, injured or their life is at risk.

<b>This policy was adopted on</b>	<b>Signed on behalf of the nursery</b>	<b>Date for review</b>
<i>August 2022</i>	Shannon Lacey ( <i>Deputy Manager</i> ) Mercedes Bar-Joseph ( <i>Manager</i> )	<i>August 2023</i>