

1.24. Sickness and Illness Policy

At **Aplomb Day Nursery** we promote the good health of all children attending including oral health by:

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 (wearing PPE), wherever possible
- We follow the guidance published by UK Health Security Agency for managing specific infectious diseases 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 the last episode of sickness and diarrhoea
- The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA, formerly Public Health England) defines an outbreak or incident as: an incident in which 2 or more people experiencing a similar illness are linked in time or place, or a greater than expected rate of infection compared with the usual background rate for the place and time where the outbreak has occurred.
- 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 48 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.
- In case when a child has head lice/nits we ask parents to follow Public Health England advice on how to treat this and contact their GP. 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. If your child has head lice/nits, we will ask you to not bring them in or take them back unless they are being treated for it in order to prevent it from spreading. During the treatment period and once the nits have died, you will be able to bring the child back with covered head.

- If your child has been sent in and a member of staff has found nits/headlice on them, they will be sent home for treatment.

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.

- 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 required to be given any form of Calpol or paracetamol due to high temperature/ fever or being unwell they should stay at home and wait until they are better and fit to attend the sessions.

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 or selected 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.

***If a child has an accident that may require hospital treatment but not an ambulance and you choose to transport children within staff vehicles Citation advise the following considerations:*

- *Requesting permission from parents*
- *Ratio requirements of the setting being maintained*
- *The age and height of the child, in regard to whether they will need a car seat. Further guidance can be found at www.childcarseats.org.uk/types-of-seat/*
- *There are some exceptions for needing a child seat depending on their age. Further guidance can be found at www.childcarseats.org.uk/the-law/cars-taxisprivate-hire-vehicles-vans-and-goodsvehicles/#under-three*
- *When fitting the car seat, the individual has training in carrying in carrying this out*
- *The transport is covered under business insurance and so there is business insurance on the vehicle*
- *Safeguarding the child will be prioritised, e.g. a designated member of staff will plan and provide oversight of all transporting arrangements and respond to any difficulties that may arise including emergency procedures, e.g. what happens if the child's health begins to deteriorate during the journey*
- *At least one adult additional to the driver will act as an escort. Staff will ensure that the transport arrangements and the vehicle meet all legal requirements. Staff will ensure that the vehicle is roadworthy and appropriately insured and that the maximum capacity is not exceeded*
- *Wherever possible and practicable we will seek alternatives to transport in undertaken in private vehicles.*