



Sickness, illness and exclusion Policy

Children should not be left at nursery if they are unwell. If a child is unwell then they will prefer to be at home with their parent(s) rather than at nursery with their peers. We will follow these procedures to ensure the welfare of all children within the nursery:

- If a child becomes ill during the nursery day, their parent(s) will be contacted and asked to pick their child up as soon as possible. During this time the child will be cared for in a quiet, calm area with their key person
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as an eye/ear infection or sickness and diarrhoea, they should not return to nursery until they have been clear for at **least 48 hours**
- We follow strictly the advice given to us by our registering authority and exclude specific contagious conditions, e.g. sickness and diarrhoea, conjunctivitis and chicken pox to protect other children in the nursery. Illnesses of this nature are very contagious and it is exceedingly unfair to expose other children to the risk of an infection.
- If a contagious infection is identified in the nursery, parents will be informed to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness. All equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child will be cleaned and sterilised thoroughly to reduce the spread of infection.
- For the welfare of the child we would not disclose the name of the child who is suffering from the illness, nor disclose the room the child is in. We would give parents as much information on spotting the signs and symptoms. In any case the infected child would have been excluded for that period.
- 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. ***Our policy, therefore, is to exclude children on antibiotics for the first 48 hours of the course***
- The nursery has the right to refuse admission to a child who is unwell. This decision will be taken by the manager/director and ***is non-negotiable***

Head lice

Information/posters about head lice are 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 children's hair

Meningitis procedure

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has meningitis, the nursery manager would contact the Infection Control of their area, and Care and Social Services. They will give guidance and support in each individual case Health & Safety department. We always liaise with them in cases such as these. Contacts are:

- Health Protection Team, Public Health Wales (Mid and West Wales) 01792 607387
- Care Inspectorate Wales 0300 7900 126
- Local Authority Environmental Health Department 01267 228706

Transporting children to hospital procedure

- If the sickness is severe, call for an ambulance immediately. We would NOT attempt to transport the sick child in our own vehicle
- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, we would contact the parent and arrange to meet them at the hospital
- A senior member of staff would accompany the child and collect together registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter. A member of the management team must also be informed immediately

Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance.