

# Sickness and Illness Policy and Procedure

EYFS: 3.44, 3.45, 3.46

At Dandelion Day Nursery and Kids Club we promote the good health of all children attending. To help keep children healthy and minimise infection, we do not expect children to attend the setting 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 with their peers in the setting.

## **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 day, we will contact their parent(s) and ask them to pick up their child as soon as possible. During this time we will care for the child in a quiet, calm area with their key person, wherever possible
- We follow the guidance given to us 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 setting
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as sickness and diarrhoea, they must not return to the setting until they have been clear for at least 48 hours. We will inform all parents if there is a contagious infection identified in the setting, 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 possible and in all cases within 14 days of the incident where we have any child or staff member with food poisoning
- We exclude all children on antibiotics for 24 hours from the first dose of the course in case an allergic reaction happens, this may happen even if administered previously
- 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
- If a child develops a temperature during the day and is showing other signs of being unwell we will inform parents and ask to collect. Emergency Calpol will be given if parents cannot pick up their children within a timely manner, to manage temperatures.
- If a child has a cold or viral infection and is well enough to attend the setting but needs Calpol to manage the symptoms. The staff can administer the Calpol if needed but will inform parents if their children starts to deteriorate.

## **Meningitis procedure**

If a parent informs the setting that their child has meningitis, the 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 setting, we will be contacted directly by the IC Nurse and the appropriate support will be given. We will follow all guidance given and notify any of the appropriate authorities including Ofsted if necessary.

### **Transporting children to hospital procedure**

The manager/staff member must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the sickness is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the sick child in your own vehicle
- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, 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
- Inform a member of the management team 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. Staff may also require additional support following the accident.