



Guildhall Feoffment Pre-school & Nursery **Sickness and Medication Policy**

SICKNESS:

Procedure for children with sickness or infectious disease

We ask parents to inform a member of staff if their child has any illness, so that we can display a sign to inform parents, staff and visitors that we have had a case of that infection or illness in nursery. This allows other parents to be on the lookout for the symptoms in their child.

Any child who is known to have suffered from sickness or diarrhoea in the previous 48 hours will not be allowed to attend the setting. Children should also not attend if they have a temperature or infectious disease and are unwell. The Nursery reserves the right to make a judgement on whether the child is well enough to attend.

Parents are asked to be considerate when returning children to the setting following a notable infectious disease, such as Chicken Pox, Mumps etc, and we request that the recommended isolation period is observed. The following guidance is taken from the Children's Information Service.

INFECTIOUS ILLNESSES, RASHES AND SKIN COMPLAINTS

Illness	Days off	Comments
Chickenpox	5 days from onset of rash	It is necessary to wait until spots have healed or scabbed
Covid 19 (tested positive)	3 days (starting the day after symptoms develop in under 18's) 5 days (starting the day after symptoms develop in over 18's)	Try to stay home and avoid contact with others. Wash hands.
High temperature	Keep off while temperature is above 38 C	
Cold Sores	None	Many healthy children excrete this virus at some time without having a sore
Diarrhoea and sickness	48 hours after the last time you were sick or had diarrhoea	

German Measles	5 days from onset of rash	The child is most infectious before the diagnosis is made and most children should be immune due to immunisation so that exclusion after the rash will prevent very few cases. See 'Other Considerations'
Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease	None	Usually a mild disease and children are infectious before symptoms appear.
Impetigo	Until sores are crusted or healed	Antibiotic treatment by mouth may speed healing. If sores can reliably be covered exclusion may be shortened.
Measles	5 days from onset of rash	See 'Other Considerations'
Ringworm	None	Proper treatment by the GP is important. Scalp ringworm needs treatment with an anti-fungal by mouth.
Scabies	Until treated	Outbreaks have occasionally occurred in schools and nurseries. Child can return as soon as properly treated. This should include all the persons in the household.
Scarlet Fever	5 days commencing from antibiotics	Treatment recommended for the affected child.

***for other infectious illness information refer to Public Health England.**

Procedure if a child becomes unwell during a session:

- Make careful observations on the child and comfort and reassure them.
- Contact the parent/carer as soon as possible.
- If no contact is available during the session, make the child comfortable and warm in the quiet area and continue to monitor the child. A drink of water will be offered.
- The other children will be asked to be as quiet as possible and to "look after" the child.
- The manager will continue to try and establish contact with parent/carer and other named contacts.

- One staff member will be responsible for keeping an eye on the child and monitor the illness.

We feel that this procedure is sufficient for most common illnesses until the parent/carer collects the child at the end of the session. If however the child seems very ill we would make no hesitation to phone for medical assistance such as a doctor or ambulance. Should this be required a member of staff will escort the child and remain with them until parents arrive.

Bumped Head:

If a child receives a bump on the head during a session the person with parental responsibility, notably the parent will be notified immediately. They will be told the severity of the bump and suggested that their child is picked up as soon as possible. The accident will be recorded as usual in the accident book and signed by the parent on collection. A parent will be informed to keep an eye on their child for the rest of the day and if they are unsure they should always seek the advice of a health professional.

MEDICATION

Statement of Intent

We believe that children who are sick should be at home until they are well enough to return to the setting. However, we recognise that sometimes children will need medication to help maintain their health and well being or when they are recovering from an illness. Whenever possible, children who are prescribed medication should receive their doses at home, but in certain circumstances we will agree to administer this. We will administer both over the counter and prescribed medicines but staff have the right to decline a request from parents/carers to administer medication involving technical knowledge or training or if any medication is out of date.

If a child requires medicine we will obtain information about the child's needs and will ensure this information is kept up-to-date. When dealing with medication of any kind in the nursery, strict guidelines will be followed.

MEDICINE ADMINISTRATION

The following is a guide to how and when medicine will be administered in the nursery. However please bear in mind that the final decision regarding the administration of all medicines is the responsibility of the Nursery Manager or Deputy Manager.

With the exception of Calpol and Piriton syrup, only medicine prescribed by your child's doctor or with a letter from your child's doctor will be administered by senior staff in the nursery where possible. This will be administered according to the instructions on the label. All medicine is stored in a locked cabinet or the fridge and away from the children.

If a syringe is supplied with a child's medication the syringe must be used to administer the medicine. A medicine spoon cannot be used unless the dosage is 2.5mls or 5mls which are the measures on the medicine spoon. If a syringe is not provided and the medication dosage is not 2.5mls or 5mls the nursery will not administer the medication.

When administering medication staff will ensure that this is carried out in an appropriate environment.

Please note that prescribed medicines will not be administered for longer than three months after the date on the prescription label unless they are for a chronic illness such as asthma or we have received a letter from your child's doctor.

Parents/guardians must complete a medication consent form when they leave their child at the nursery. Details of all medicine administered is recorded stating the name of the medicine given, the time, dosage and the adult who gave the medicine. The medicine form must be dated and signed by the member of staff who administered the medicine, the member of staff who witnessed the procedure and the parent/guardian when they collect their child.

Antibiotics - each time a child has a new prescription for antibiotics they will not be able to attend the nursery until 24 hours after the first dose. This is in case there is a reaction to the medicine.

Please note that in the case of antibiotic eye drops or cream prescribed for the treatment of conjunctivitis the first dose must be administered at home. Children may then attend the nursery as usual.

In addition, where antibiotic cream is prescribed for the treatment of skin conditions the first dose must be applied at home. Children may then attend the nursery as usual providing that the exclusion period for the condition has been observed where necessary.

Calpol - upon joining the nursery parents will be asked to sign a form to give permission to administer Calpol although where possible parents will be contacted to give verbal permission prior to the medicine being given as well as asking them to come and collect their child from nursery.

Please note we will only give Calpol if a child has a temperature of 37.5 degrees or above and we are unable to get the child's temperature down through removal of clothing, applying cold compresses and giving water to drink, unable to contact parents/parents cannot get to nursery promptly.

The nursery are able to administer Calpol when a child has a high temperature or for mild pain relief. The amount of Calpol administered will relate to the amount stated on the packaging and according to your child's age.

Please note, as per the label on the bottle, Calpol must not be given to a child for more than 3 days. Therefore if a child has been given Calpol on 3 consecutive days they will not be able to return to the nursery until they have been seen by a GP. The 3 days include any days when a child is not at the nursery. Please communicate with the nursery manager who will advise you when your child is able to return.

In the event that your child's temperature reaches 39 degrees or above, the nursery will administer Nurofen / Calpol immediately. Every effort will be made to contact you in this instance as your child must be collected immediately

Piriton syrup - Upon joining the nursery parents will be asked to sign a form to give permission to administer Piriton syrup for children aged 1 year and above if deemed necessary by senior staff.

In the event of your child displaying symptoms of an allergic reaction, Piriton will be given by a qualified member of staff. Dependant on the severity of the reaction, Piriton may be administered immediately prior to contact. Please note: you will need to collect your child within TWO HOURS unless you are advised otherwise by management.

If your child has been administered Piriton at home, dependant on the severity of the re-action, you need discuss with management whether they can attend Nursery

Once Piriton has been administered in the nursery, staff will monitor the child and will continue to monitor until parents arrive.

If a child has been given Piriton before arriving at the nursery, staff will monitor the child and will contact parents accordingly.

Please note that if Piriton has been prescribed by your child's GP, this must be reviewed on a regular basis.

Creams/lotions - can be applied to children at the nursery as a temporary measure to improve a child's health. Decisions on the appropriateness of the medication and its duration are left to the professional judgement of the person in charge.

Medicine (both prescription and non-prescription) must only be administered to a child where written permission for that particular medicine has been obtained from the child's parent. This includes creams and lotions and parents will be required to fill in a Health Care Plan giving full details of the cream or lotion to be applied if deemed necessary.

Inhalers - where there is a prescription for an inhaler, one must be kept on the premises even if it is for short term use only.

Long term medication - Where children have an ongoing medical condition and require long term medication, a Health Care Plan needs to be completed every term. Parents will be required to sign it.

Medication such an inhaler or an Epi pen will need to remain on the nursery premises.

Teething - with the exception of herbal teething remedies such as Ashtons or Nelsons powders which contain no drugs all teething gels must be prescribed. Alternatively a letter from your child's doctor stating that it is suitable for your child to be given the gel is acceptable.

Seizures and convulsions - to safeguard the health and wellbeing of children who have had a seizure or convulsion, either at or outside of the nursery, children will need to be assessed medically and remain at home for 24 hours following the seizure or convulsion.

At the Nursery Manager's discretion, on seeing a note from the hospital or doctor which states that the child is fit to return to the nursery, the child may attend the nursery.

Failure to collect - where a parent/guardian has been contacted and asked to collect their child on medical grounds we expect this to be within one hour of the initial contact from the nursery.

Where parents/guardians are unable to collect within this time or if parents/guardians have not returned the nursery's call regarding the arrangements for the collection of their child this will be treated as failure to collect and we reserve the right to telephone the emergency contacts and request that they collect the child.

If, after a further 30 minutes the staff have been unsuccessful in contacting the child's parents/guardians or other named emergency contacts or there will be considerable delay in the child being collected Social Services will be contacted their advice will be sought and followed. Where possible, messages will be left on parent's/guardian's answer phones to inform them of the procedure being followed.

Please note that where a parent/guardian has been contacted and asked to collect their child on medical grounds and the parent/guardian has refused to do so this will be treated as failure to collect and the above procedure will be followed.

Health care plans

Some children may have needs that relate to specific medical conditions, for example diabetes, epilepsy or multiple allergies. These children should have a health care plan written in consultation with the parents and any other professionals involved to identify how we will make special provision for them to manage their condition within our setting.

The health care plan will make it clear to all staff what the actions are that need to be taken to help the child remain as healthy as possible or how to deal with an emergency situation. All staff need to be aware of any health care plans written and signed to state that they have read and understood the plan.

It is within the key person's role to support the parent/carer to fill in the health care plan before the child is left on their third trial. A copy will be kept in the office as well as in the room the child is.

Signed: T Bucher

Date: February 2023

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