



October 2021

Illnesses and Accidents Policy

Policy Statement

It is the policy of this provision that children in our care are kept safe at all times.

The provision understands its duty to promote the good health of the children, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action when they are ill. In this respect the provision is fully compliant with Section 3: Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework.

Procedure

In this provision we realise that all children have minor illnesses, such as minor coughs and colds, from time to time that do not prevent them from attending. In these circumstances staff should allow children to attend.

The provision is also aware that some children have longer term illnesses and conditions that, while serious, do not affect their day to day life and that living a "normal" life and attending early years care is an important part of their coping with that illness. These cases will always be discussed with the parents/guardians at the enrolment stage and, if accepted at the provision, a suitable plan of care will be agreed which may involve the administration of medication.

However, the provision is also aware that some children will have minor or serious illnesses from time to time that should prevent them from attending. It is therefore the policy of the provision that children who have anything more than a minor illness should be kept at home. This is particularly important in the case of any infectious illness that might be spread.

Children with the following signs or symptoms will be excluded from the provision:

- a. diarrhoea and/or vomiting
- b. doubtful rash
- c. conjunctivitis, unless treated for 24hrs with suitable medication
- d. infectious illness, eg chicken-pox, mumps or measles
- e. fever or temperature.

Parents/guardians should be advised that their children may not return to the provision until 48 hours after they have been symptom free.

If a child arrives at the provision ill, the senior member of staff will take the decision as to whether the child is fit to attend or not. If not, the parent will be asked to take the child home.

If a child becomes ill while at the provision or has an accident then the room leader or deputy manager will be asked to see the child immediately and the child's parents/guardians should be called and asked to collect the child. While waiting for the parents/guardians the child will be monitored and comforted and given the chance to rest in a quiet area. If the child's condition worsens such that it causes concern to the room leader or deputy manager and staff then suitable medical treatment should be arranged in the form of a GP, an ambulance or transport to Accident and Emergency as appropriate and the parents/guardians informed.

In the event of an illness or accident requiring hospital treatment, the person in charge will try to inform the parents/guardians immediately and arrange to have the child taken to hospital. The person who takes the child should stay with the child until the parents/guardians arrive.

If the parents/guardians do not arrive or are unable to be contacted, the member of staff should stay with the child until the appropriate treatment has been given and follow the advice of a responsible doctor. Where appropriate they should return with the child to the provision where he or she would be cared for until the arrival of the parents/guardians.

In all cases the room leader or deputy manager will complete a detailed report of what happened and action taken.

Any illness, accident or injury to a child will be recorded on an accident form and, in the case of a serious injury, an appropriate report made to Ofsted as required by the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework. Reports should be made via the Ofsted Contact Centre on 0300 123 1231.

Serious accidents, injuries or deaths occurring in relation to early years services must be notified to Ofsted as soon as is reasonably possible and in all cases within 14 days of the incident. A registered provider, who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with this requirement commits an offence.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Policy review date: _____