

Cold Ash Pre-school: Managing Children who are Sick, Infectious or with Allergies Policy

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health

The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents and/or carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.

Policy Statement:

We provide care for healthy children through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic substance.

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious:

- If children appear unwell during the day – have a temperature, rash, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – a member of staff calls the parents and asks them to collect the child, or send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing and sponging their heads with cool water, but kept away from draughts.
- The child's temperature is taken using an ear thermometer, which is kept in the first aid box.
- In extreme cases of emergency, the child should be taken to the nearest hospital and the parent/guardian informed.
- Parents/Guardians are asked to take their child to the doctor before returning them to the setting; the setting can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home for at least 48 hours after the first dose (or longer depending on the condition- see DfE's Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and other Childcare Settings, 2016) before returning them to the setting.
- After vomiting or diarrhoea, parents must not return the sick child until 48 hours after the last episode.

- The setting has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is obtainable from www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1194947358374 and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases':

- If a child or adult is diagnosed as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency.
- When the setting becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the Pre-school Leader informs Ofsted and acts on any advice given by the Health Protection Agency.

Procedures for children with allergies:

- When parents/guardians start their children at the setting they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Enrolment Form.
- If a child has an allergy, information is made available to staff to ensure they are aware of the allergy, how the child reacts and what to do if a reaction occurs. Allergy cases are treated individually and control measures are put into place by all staff.
- The information is kept in the child's personal file and a copy is displayed where staff can see it.
- Parents train staff in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction.
- Generally, no nuts or nut products are used within the setting.
- Parents are made aware so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in.

Insurance requirements for children with allergies and disabilities:

- The insurance will automatically include children with any disability or allergy, but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below. For children suffering life threatening conditions, or requiring invasive treatments; written confirmation from your insurance provider must be obtained to extend the insurance.