

University of Warwick Nursery

SICK CHILDREN AT NURSERY PROCEDURE

We have a duty to promote the health and wellbeing of all the children who attend the nursery. Children who are unwell cannot reach their full potential and develop a healthy lifestyle. To this end we have developed this policy and procedure for dealing with sick children.

In the event of a child being taken ill while in the Nursery the staff will follow the procedure detailed below:

- The child's temperature will be taken. The normal temperature for a baby or young child is between 36.6C (97.9F) and 37.2C (99F). If abnormal, efforts will be made to reduce the temperature to an acceptable level by offering cool drinks, taking off shoes and socks and any extra layers of clothing.
- If appropriate the child will be removed to a quiet area of the nursery made comfortable and monitored by a member of staff.
- At the same time efforts will be made to contact the child's parents/carers to discuss the child's condition.
- Having been appraised of the situation, the parent/ carer will then be encouraged to decide as to the steps they wish to take next. For example, to collect the child immediately, give permission to staff to administer children's paracetamol liquid (only if the child has a high temperature. Children's paracetamol liquid will not be administered for any other symptom) or "wait and see".
- In circumstances where the child's temperature is very high and parents cannot come to collect the child immediately; the nursery may administer a paracetamol type suspension. However, this **is only to be used with permission from a parent and can only be given by staff once in a 24-hour period**. Parent's permission must be given before every dose.
- If the Nursery is unable to contact either parent or emergency contact, messages will be left asking the parent/carers to contact the Nursery immediately and Nursery staff will continue to monitor the child's condition.
- If a child is taken home because they are unwell, parents will be reminded of the nursery exclusion through illness (information below) and advised when they will be permitted to bring the child back into nursery.
- Should the child be taken ill suddenly, or the child's condition deteriorate so that staff feel it necessary to seek medical advice, the Nursery Manager, or most senior member of staff, will accompany the child to the nearest hospital A & E department. The parent/carers will be informed of the action and arrange to meet the nursery staff and child at the hospital. (It is Nursery policy that if a child needs to be hospitalised, an ambulance will be called)
- In the event of a child being diagnosed with a notifiable disease, or two or more children have food poisoning, the information will be passed onto Health Protection Agency, Westgate House, Market Street, Warwick, CV34 4DE. Tel; 01926 493491 and Ofsted.

Children who are taken ill at home.

If a child is taken ill at home and is not fit to attend nursery, parents/carers are requested to contact the nursery to advise them of the reason for the child's absence. This is so that in the case a child has contracted an infectious illness, the parents of other children can be advised.

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EXCLUSION PERIODS THROUGH ILLNESS

Disease/illness	Minimum exclusion period
Antibiotics	2 days from outset
High temperature	If sent home, 24 hours
Vomiting	If sent home, 48 hours after the last occurrence
Conjunctivitis	Follow guidance from GP
Diarrhoea	48 hours after last episode
Chicken pox	5 days from appearance of rash
Gastro-enteritis, food poisoning, salmonella and dysentery	Until authorised by District Community Physician
Infected hepatitis	7 days from onset of jaundice
Measles	7 days from appearance of rash
Meningococcal infection	Until recovered from infection
Mumps	Until swelling has subsided and in no case less 7 days from onset of illness
Whooping cough	21 days from onset of paroxysmal cough
Poliomyelitis	Until declared free from infection by District Community Physician

Rubella (German measles)	4 days from appearance of rash
Scarlet fever and Streptococcal infection of the throat	Until appropriate medical treatment has been given and in no case for less than 3 days from the start of treatment.
Tuberculosis	Until declared free of infection by the District Community Physician
Typhoid Fever	Until declared free of infection by the District Community Physician
Impetigo	Until the skin has healed
Hand, Foot and Mouth	No exclusion period

A list of notifiable illness can be found over leaf.

If a child is diagnosed as having one of the following illnesses the Health Protection Agency **must** be notified:

- Acute encephalitis
- Acute poliomyelitis
- Anthrax
- Cholera
- Diphtheria
- Dysentery
- Food poisoning
- Leptospirosis
- Malaria
- Measles
- Meningitis
- *Meningococcal*
- *Pneumococcal*
- *Haemophilus influenzae*
- *Viral*
- *Other specified*
- *Unspecified*
- Meningococcal septicaemia (without meningitis)
- Mumps
- Ophthalmia neonatorum
- Paratyphoid fever
- Plague
- Rabies

- Relapsing fever
- Rubella
- Scarlet fever
- Smallpox
- Tetanus
- Tuberculosis
- Typhoid fever
- Typhus fever
- Viral haemorrhagic fever
- Viral hepatitis
 - Hepatitis A*
 - Hepatitis B*
 - Hepatitis c*
 - Other*
- *Whooping cough*
- *Yellow fever*

Leprosy is also notifiable, but directly to the HPA, CfI, IM&T Dept