Sick Child Policy

Policy Created: 10/04/2020
Policy reviewed: 26/06/2026

I understand that as a parent you will have obligations that you must fulfil including attending work and/or college.

If your child becomes ill in my care, I will ring you or your emergency contacts and request that the child is collected within a reasonable time period (1.5 hours) to be taken home.

All children that attend, must always be well enough to engage within daily activities, both indoors and outdoors. It is not good practice for children to be excluded from playing outdoors, so parents must give careful consideration about whether their child will be able to fully participate in the day. This must also be considered when a child has a mild illness or is recovering from an illness. Please consider that if I or a member of my family become ill as a result then I may have to close while I (or they) recover.

If you are in any doubt about whether or not to bring your child to my home, then please call me first to discuss the situation.

Whilst it is not appropriate to care for sick children within the day, who should be at home until they are well enough to return to the setting, we recognise that there are times where it will be necessary to administer medication as part of maintaining children's health and wellbeing or when they are recovering from an illness (see 'Administration of Medicine Policy')

I have set out my own exclusion periods for some common illnesses below:

Suspected or confirmed Coronavirus - You should keep your child at home if they have a temperature and feel unwell. Once the temperature has gone and the child is feeling well in themselves with no other symptoms, the child can return to the setting. In cases of confirmed Coronavirus, it is still suggested that the child remains at home for 5 days.

High temperature - You should not bring your child to the setting if they are suffering from a fever. Please keep them at home until the temperature has gone and they feel well enough to return.

Flu - 5 days

Sickness & diarrhoea - 48 hours from last occurrence

Chicken pox - Until spots have crusted over (this is usually around 5 days after spots have appeared)

Conjunctivitis - Until discharge has gone from the eyes

Ear infection - If your child has a high temperature or severe earache, keep them at home until they no longer have a temperature or the earache has gone.

Impetigo - If a child has impetigo, they'll very likely need antibiotics from your GP. Please keep them at home until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotics.

Headlice and nits – The child must be treated with specific product and receipt must be shown, if I see any living pests the child will be sent home.

Hand foot and mouth disease – The child has to stay at home for at least 5 days and until the child is feeling well enough to attend the setting.

Threadworms – The child must be treated and can come back to the setting after 2 days from being treated.