

Managing children who are sick, infectious, or with allergies

(Including reporting notifiable diseases)

EYFS: 3.44, 3.45, 3.46

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 trigger.

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

- If a child becomes ill during the nursery day, we will contact their parent(s) which could result in the child being collected from nursery as soon as possible. We will care for the child in a quiet, calm area with their key person wherever possible. The child will be closely monitored, with changes to their temperature and wellbeing recorded on a Monitoring sick child form (Attached).
- We follow the guidance given to us by Public Health England on infection control in schools and other childcare settings and advice from our local health protection unit on exclusion times for specific illnesses, e.g. chicken pox, measles and sickness and diarrhoea, to protect other children in the nursery.
- If a child has a temperature, we will follow the NHS guidance available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/fever-in-children/>. Parents can give consent to administer fever reducing medication if the child's temperature rises above 38 degrees Celsius. If the temperature does not lower within 30 minutes, parents will be called to collect their child immediately.
- The child's temperature is taken using a digital thermometer.
- We will not administer paracetamol based, fever reducing, medication unless for the following reasons-pain relief for teething in children under the age of 2 ½ or to bring down a raised temperature above 38 degrees Celsius.

- In extreme cases of emergency, an ambulance will be called and a member of the management team will accompany the child to the hospital, and the parents/carers will be informed.
- We have the right to refuse admission to a child who is unwell. This decision will be taken by the manager on duty and is non-negotiable. Parents are asked that if your child shows any signs of being unwell, they are kept at home to be cared for by family members.
- *For the duration of the COVID 19 Pandemic (and possibly for a period of time afterwards), we will exclude all children on prescribed short term medication such as antibiotics for the full course of the treatment, if symptoms include a cough or raised temperature.*
- Once administration of medication resumes the child must have received a minimum of 24 hours of the dosage before attending nursery
- If the child is unwell enough to receive prescribed medication, the child must start the course immediately
- Should a child have an infectious illness, such as sickness and diarrhoea, they must not return to nursery until they have been clear for 48 hours.
- We notify Ofsted as soon as possible and in all cases within 14 days of the incident where we have any child or staff member with food poisoning. We inform all parents if there is a contagious infection identified in the nursery, to enable them to spot early signs of this illness. We thoroughly clean and sterilise all equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child to reduce the spread of infection.
- Some activities, such as sand and water play, and self-serve snacks where there is a risk of cross-contamination may be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.
- Staff are provided with face masks for the cleaning up of sickness and diarrhoea.
- The nursery has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is displayed on the parents/carers notice and on the office board, and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.
- If staff are required to monitor children who are sick, then the staff must complete the sickness monitoring form (Attached)

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 nursery becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the manager informs Ofsted within 14 days and acts on any advice given by the Health Protection Agency.
- A full list of notifiable diseases is available on the office notice board.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure

- HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis A, B and C, are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults.
- Single-use vinyl gloves and aprons are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Protective rubber gloves are used for cleaning clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and bagged for parents to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using anti-bacterial powder; and are disposed of.
- Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using an anti-bacterial cleaner.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition, although in exceptional cases a parent may be asked to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to collect their child and must treat their child and all the family. Once treated the child may return to nursery.
- We make information/posters about head lice readily available and all parents are requested to regularly check their children's hair. If a parent finds that their child has head lice we would be grateful if you could inform the nursery so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair.

Conjunctivitis

- If a child is suspected to have conjunctivitis then the Room Manager will telephone the Parents or Carers.
- If a child is suspected of having conjunctivitis then the Parents or Carers will be asked to seek medical advice from their GP or the child may be excluded from nursery until the child is better at the manager's discretion.

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

Procedures for children with allergies

- When parents start their children at the nursery they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Registration Form, Allergies form and the room introduction form. If a child has an allergy, the nursery will need a confirmation letter of diagnosis from a doctor or paediatrician before they start the nursery.
- If a diagnosis is made while the child is already in nursery, we will need a letter of confirmation from a doctor or paediatrician as soon as possible.
- If a child has an allergy, a health care plan and a risk assessment form is completed to detail the following:
 - The allergen (i.e. the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc.).
 - The nature of the allergic reactions e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc.
 - What to do in case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how it is to be used (e.g. Epipen).
 - Control measures - such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen.
 - Review.
- This risk assessment form is kept in the child's personal file and a copy is displayed where our staff can see it.
- No nuts or nut products are used within the nursery.
- Parents are made aware so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in, for example to a party.
- Parents and visitors are not to give food or drink to any child other than their own when attending a nursery event or outings. This is to prevent any children with special diets being given the wrong food.
- At all times we ensure that the administration of medication is compliant with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Oral medication:

- Asthma inhalers are now regarded as 'oral medication'. Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.
- We must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.
- We adhere to all health care plans and risk assessment procedures for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
- Life-saving medication and invasive treatments:
These include adrenaline injections (Epipens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc.) or invasive treatments such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy).

- The key person for special needs children requiring assistance with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.:
 - Prior written consent must be obtained from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
 - The key person/senior staff must have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include receiving appropriate instructions from parents or guardians.

Infection Control

At Littleworld Day Nurseries we promote the good health of all children attending through maintaining high hygiene standards and reducing the chances of infection being spread.

Viruses and infections can be easily passed from person to person by breathing in air containing the virus which is produced when an infected person talks, coughs or sneezes. It can also spread through hand/face contact after touching a person or surface contaminated with the virus.

We follow the guidance below to prevent a virus or infection from moving around the nursery. Our staff:

- Encourage all children to use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch germs and ensure that the tissue is disposed of and children wash their hands
- Develop children's understanding of the need for good hygiene procedures in helping them to stay healthy
- Wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when changing nappies, toileting children and dealing with any bodily fluids. Staff are requested to dispose of these in the appropriate way and wash hands immediately
- Clean all potties and changing mats before and after each use
- Clean toilets during lunch time and check on them through the day
- Remind children to wash their hands before eating, after the toilet, playing outside or being in contact with any animal and explain the reason for this
- Clean all toys, equipment and resources on a regular basis by following a comprehensive cleaning rota and using antibacterial cleanser or through washing in the washing machine
- Wash and clean all equipment used by babies and toddlers as and when needed including when the children have placed it in their mouth
- Store dummies in individual hygienic boxes labelled with the child's name to prevent cross-contamination with other children
- Immediately clean (where necessary) any dummy or bottle that falls on the floor or is picked up by another child

- Provide labelled individual bedding for children that is not used by any other child
- Ask parents/carers and visitors to remove all outdoor footwear or use shoe covers when entering baby room where the child sit and crawl on the floor
- Follow the Managing children who are sick policy when children are ill to prevent the spread of any infection in the nursery. Staff are also required to stay at home if they are contagious

In addition:

- The nursery manager retains the right of refusal of all children, parents/carers, staff and visitors who are deemed contagious and may impact on the welfare of the rest of the nursery
- Periodically each room in the nursery will be deep cleaned including carpets and soft furnishings to ensure the spread of infection is limited. This will be implemented earlier if the need arises.
- The nursery will ensure stocks of tissues, hand washing equipment, cleaning materials and sterilising fluid are maintained at all times and increased during the winter months or when flu and cold germs are circulating.

Meningitis procedure

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has meningitis, the nursery manager will contact the Infection Control (IC) Nurse for their area. The IC Nurse will give guidance and support in each individual case. If parents do not inform the nursery, we will be contacted directly by the IC Nurse and the appropriate support will be given. We will follow all guidance given and notify any of the appropriate authorities including Ofsted if necessary.

Infection Control Advice (Basingstoke and North Hampshire) 01256 486774

Royal Hampshire County Hospital 01962 825170 or 01962 824483

COVID 19 Amendments in place for the duration of the Pandemic

- If a child is showing symptoms of COVID-19, (a high temperature or new persistent cough) the staff member will wear PPE-apron, gloves and a face mask. Parents will be called to collect the child immediately, and are advised to apply for testing to confirm for Coronavirus. The child should access a COVID test and self-isolate following current Government guidance.

- Fever reducing Paracetamol medication will not be administered in nursery.
- Children will not be admitted to nursery if they have had medication to reduce a temperature in the 4 hours prior to arrival.
- We will adhere to Government guidance when dealing with a confirmed case of Covid-19. Any child or staff member with symptoms of COVID 19 will be asked to self-isolate away from nursery and stay at home for the required period, or until a COVID 19 test is negative. If anyone has a family member who shows symptoms of COVID 19, then they must self-isolate at home for the required period.
- We will inform Public Health England and parents if we have a confirmed case of COVID 19 in nursery.
- Where a child, young person or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 10 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.
- Social distancing measures will be strictly enforced in nursery, in line with Government guidance. All visitors to nursery are asked to adhere to these when entering and leaving the nursery. Anyone who is showing any signs of COVID 19 are asked to remain away from nursery.
- Robust hand washing practices are used throughout the nursery to prevent infection. Visitors to nursery are asked to use the supplied hand sanitiser prior to entering the nursery.

COVID 19 additional health and hygiene measures in place until further notice-

In response to Public Health England guidance, and after reviewing our current health and hygiene practice, we are implementing the following changes with immediate effect-

- All visitors to nursery are required to use the alcohol hand sanitiser provided before entering Nursery.
- Children and all staff will routinely wash their hands in hot, soapy water throughout the day and avoid contact between hands and faces.
- Children and staff will follow the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach to using tissues to catch coughs and sneezes in a tissue before disposing of the tissue in a bin.
- Restricted access to all non-essential visitors such as contractors, work experience or supernumerary support staff
- Parents are asked that if your child shows any signs of being unwell, they are kept at home to be cared for by family members.
- Any children travelling to, or transiting through, those countries and areas designated as high risk by Public Health England, will be asked to self-isolate, and not return to nursery until a 14 day period, with no symptoms, has passed.

Please be advised that this part of the policy will be reviewed and amended as required following changes to Public Health England and NHS 111 guidance on Covid-19.

Immunisation

At Littleworld Day Nurseries we expect that children are vaccinated in accordance with the government's health policy and their age. We ask that parents inform us if their children are not vaccinated so that we can manage any risks to their own child or other children/staff/parents in the best way possible. The nursery manager must be aware of any children who are not vaccinated within the nursery in accordance with their age.

Children will be required to stay at home after receiving any form of immunisation-including vaccinations or oral and nasal sprays, (for example the Flu spray) for the remainder of that day. This is to support their well-being in the event of any side effects, and to protect other nursery members from contact with 'Live Vaccines'.

We make all parents aware that some children in the nursery may not be vaccinated, due to their age, medical reasons or parental choice. Our nursery does not discriminate against children who have not received their immunisations and will not disclose individual details to other parents. However, we will share the risks of infection if children have not had immunisations and ask parents to sign a disclaimer.

We record, or encourage parents to record, information about immunisations on children's registration documents and we update this information as and when necessary, including when the child reaches the age for the appropriate immunisations.

Further guidance

- Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings (DfES 2005)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of

Littleworld Day Nursery Management staff

Held on

30th April 2021

Date to be reviewed

April 2022

Signed on behalf of the provider

Jennie Campbell

Name of signatory

Jennie Campbell

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)

Nursery Manager



LITTLEWORLD DAY NURSERIES LTD

Sick child monitoring record

In the event a child presents with signs of illness or a raised temperature

Date.....Childs Name.....Date of birth.....

Initial symptoms of illness and time they occurred.....

Initial temperature recorded.....Parent called: Y/N Time.....

In the event of a raised temperature only

Permission to give Calpol given? Y / N Name of parent giving permission:.....

Fever reducing medication can be administered once to a child presenting with a raised temperature above 38° only with consent from their parent. If after 30 minutes there is no reduction in temperature, the child must be sent home.

Temperature check and time-every 15 minutes	Symptoms observed and changes to child wellbeing-check every 15 minutes	Action taken	Administered fever reducing medication		Witnessed by	Staff signature
			Dosage	Time		

Parent/Carer signature.....

Parent/Carer name.....

Do

- give them plenty of fluids
- look out for signs of dehydration
- give them food if they want it
- give them paracetamol if they're distressed or unwell
- get medical advice if you're worried about your child

Don't

- do not undress your child or sponge them down to cool them, a high temperature is a natural and healthy response to infection
- do not cover them up in too many clothes or bedclothes