



Welbourne Primary Academy Nursery
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Sick Child Policy

We at Welbourne Academy Nursery feel that children need to be fit and well in order to get the most from the setting. We value each child's health and do all we can to prevent infection. Children are encouraged to wash their hands regularly and practice good hygiene. We ensure that toys and equipment are regularly sterilised and cleaned by members of the nursery team.

Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, some children will pick up illnesses, many of which are contagious even before they display any symptoms. Because of this we need to enforce strict exclusion periods for children suffering from certain illnesses or symptoms to help reduce the risk of cross infection within the nursery, between other children, our parents and our team.

Please keep your child at home if s/he is unwell. Children are happier at home with their families if they are ill. If your child is ill and is prescribed any medication please keep her/him at home at least for the **first 24 hours**. This is very important as children in nursery are very young and do not cope with the routines if they are unwell. We do **not** allow premade medications on site. The practitioners need to be able to see the prescription and follow the instructions accordingly.

Cuts or open sores, whether on adults or children should be covered with a suitable dressing.

If for any reason a child is unwell whilst they are at Welbourne Academy Nursery, we will ensure that:

- If a child needs to lie down, an area of the room will be made comfortable and a 'bed' made up for the child to rest on.
- Where possible, a member of staff will be allocated to support the child.
- If a child is found to have an infectious disease during a nursery session the Parent/Carer will be informed immediately and asked to collect their child.
- The nursery has its own exclusion period that all staff adheres to.

IF A CHILD IS ILL PRIOR TO COMING TO NURSERY:

- Parents are required to telephone the nursery at their earliest convenience, as their child may have an infectious disease, and other Parents/Carers may need to be notified. Staff will follow up to date guidance from the Department of Education for exclusion periods.
- Guidelines need to be followed and Parents/Carers cannot return their child to the nursery until they are no longer infectious. This is because young children are very vulnerable and we do not want to further spread infections.
- Practitioners ask parents to be mindful of their child attending with highly contagious illnesses such as conjunctivitis, we ask parents to seek medical advice and treatment.
- When children have chickenpox they are not able to attend until all spots are scabbed over.

PROCEDURE FOR VOMITING AND DIARRHOEA

- Practitioners should ascertain the nature of the child's sickness, and if a bug is suspected then the parent will be contacted and arrangements must be made to collect the child.
- For diarrhoea, the Manager/Assistant manager will contact the Parents/Carers after two episodes of diarrhoea within one session.
- The Parent/Carer is asked to keep the child at home for 48 hours after the last bout of vomit or diarrhoea.
- For sickness, parents will be notified after 1 bout of sickness while in the setting and asked to collect their child. Staff will be mindful of potential factors e.g if they were coughing or dietary issues)

PROCEDURE FOR A VERY HIGH TEMPERATURE

- If a child is suspected of having a high temperature the child's temperature is taken using a thermometer.
- If the child's temperature is 38°C or above the Parent/Carer is called to advise them of their child's condition. (We will be mindful of young children while teething as we know this affects temperature)
- The child is stripped down to their vest or nappy and a tepid compress is applied to the back of the child's neck to try and reduce the temperature.
- Baby room are able to sign in paracetamol for under 2's to leave on site for teething and leave it on site. If we do not already have written permission to administer the child's own Paracetamol suspension, then permission is sought via a telephone call to the Parent/Carer, to administer the necessary medication. **Under no circumstances will medication be given, until Parents/Carers are able to confirm that none has been administered to that child within the last four hours.**
- We have nursery paracetamol that we can obtain permission to administer to regulate temperature if the parent is on their way in and the duration is too long.
- In all cases where any medication has been administered, a medicine administration form will be filled in and will be signed by the Parent/Carer when the child is collected.
- Information regarding the reason for administering medication, the time and dosage and who administered as well as a witness will be recorded on the above mentioned form and details relayed verbally or via the child's home nursery book if they have one, for parental information.
- The Parent/Carer will be asked to collect the child, but if this is not possible then they will be asked to telephone the nursery after 30 minutes. If there is no improvement after this period, even when medication has been administered, the Parent/Carer will be required to collect their child.
- If the child's temperature has been controlled by medication and the child has not been collected, and his/her temperature starts to rise again, the child will need to be collected as soon as possible.
- If parents are not contactable we will call the emergency contact on the child's registration form.

Main points

- Any child who is unwell should not attend, regardless of whether they have a confirmed infection.
- Children with diarrhoea and/or vomiting should be excluded until they have had no symptoms for 48 hours after an episode of diarrhoea and/or vomiting.
- Coughs and runny noses alone need not be a reason for exclusion but if the child is unwell and not coping with the routines of the day at nursery they should not attend or parents will be asked to collect.
- Skin rashes should be professionally diagnosed and a child should only be excluded following appropriate advice.
- Children should only be excluded when there is good reason. If in doubt contact a member of the Health Protection Team (HPT).
- If an outbreak of infection is suspected the local Health Protection Team should be contacted.

This policy was reviewed at a meeting of the Welbourne Academy Nursery Management Group

Held on 12.10.23

Signed on behalf of the nursery T.Page