



Bolitho Nursery

enable · nurture · thrive

Policy 4.1

Sickness & Illness

4.1 Sickness and Illness

EYFS: 3.44, 3.45, 3.46

At **Bolitho Nursery** we promote the good health of all children attending. To help keep children healthy and minimise infection, we do not expect children to attend nursery if they are unwell. If a child is unwell it is in their best interest to be in a home environment with adults they know well rather than at nursery with their peers.

Our procedures

In order to take appropriate action of children who become ill and to minimise the spread of infection we implement the following procedures:

- If a child has a temperature before arriving at nursery they need to be kept at home until the temperature regulates to within normal parameters.
- If a child develops a temperature during their day here we would record it using a thermoscan. Parents would be informed their child needs to go home and we will seek consent to give their child Calpol, to reduce the risk of febrile convulsions particularly for babies. Parents sign the medication record on collection of their child.
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as an eye/ear infection or sickness and diarrhoea, they should not return to nursery until they have been clear for at least 48 hours
- We follow strictly the advice given to us by our registering authority and exclude specific contagious conditions, e.g. sickness and diarrhoea, conjunctivitis and chicken pox to protect other children in the nursery. Illnesses of this nature are very contagious and it is exceedingly unfair to expose other children to the risk of an infection. We hold the right to update these and enforce our own exclusion periods for recurrent illness or infection.
- If a contagious infection is identified in the nursery, parents will be informed to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness. All equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child will be cleaned and sterilised thoroughly to reduce the spread of infection.
- In the event of an outbreak (defined as 2 or more linked cases with similar symptoms). We will inform parents of the NHS guidance including symptoms & treatment and the nursery's exclusion period for the contagious illness. This will be notified via email plus signs displayed on the entrance door. Where a case of infection is known, these measures aim to reduce or eliminate the risk of spread through information and prompt exclusion of a case.
- For the welfare of the child we would not disclose the name of the child who is suffering from the illness, nor disclose the room the child is in.
- It is important that children are not subjected to the rigours of the nursery day, which requires socialising with other children and being part of a group setting, when they have first become ill and require a course of antibiotics. Our policy, therefore, is to exclude children on antibiotics for the first 48 hours of the course
- The nursery has the right to refuse admission to a child who is unwell, for example if they require Calpol before attending or throughout the day, in this instance we would say they are too poorly to be here. This decision will be taken by the manager on duty and is non-negotiable.
- Information/posters about head lice are 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 they could inform the nursery so that other parents can be alerted to check their children's hair.

Meningitis procedure

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has meningitis, the nursery manager will contact the Local Area Infection Control (IC) Nurse. 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.

Transporting children to hospital procedure

The nursery manager/staff member must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the sickness is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the sick child in your own vehicle,
- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, contact the parent(s)
- Redeploy staff if necessary to ensure there is adequate staff deployment to care for the remaining children. This may mean temporarily grouping the children together,
- Arrange for the most appropriate member of staff to accompany the child taking with them any relevant information such as registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter,
- Inform a member of the management team immediately,
- Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support following the accident.
- In an extreme situation two members of staff could accompany a child in a pushchair and walk them to the hospital which is within a ten minute walk of the nursery if permission is given verbally over the phone from the parents.

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 Public Health England.
- When we become aware, or are formally informed of the notifiable disease, our manager informs Ofsted and contacts Public Health England, and act[s] on any advice given.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
24th March 2020		March 2021