

Newbridge Day Nursery Illness Policy

Statement of intent

To promote the good health of children, take positive steps and prevent the spread of infection and to take appropriate measures when they are ill.

Aim

To contain and minimise the spread of contagious and infectious diseases.

Methods

- To make the child as comfortable as possible whilst waiting for parent / carer to collect them.
- Make parents aware of the need to inform us about their child's illness or condition.
- Ensure contact numbers and medical details are updated on a regular basis if circumstances change.
- Ensure staff are updated on current health issues.
- A child needs to be free of sickness or diarrhoea for a minimum of 48 hours before returning to Nursery.

If we feel that the child may have an infectious disease then we follow guidance from the infection control poster which is clearly displayed in the foyer, which parents have access to view.

We also use this guidance on deciding if a child should be excluded from nursery following a medical diagnosis. Ofsted need to be informed if a child has a serious illness – refer to notifiable diseases list in infection control book, cd.rom available. Also may need to refer to Health Protection Agency to seek further advice. 01785 221126.

If more than 2 cases of suspected food poisoning occur with either children or staff at any one time Ofsted must be notified within 14 days.

Staff, students and trainees are also required to follow guidelines on infectious illnesses they may have themselves. If they have seen a doctor, that they take their advice, as we aim to keep illness to a minimum.

If staff are ill they are to report to nursery as soon as practicable so cover can be arranged.

Any illnesses that could be a threat to a pregnant person (staff to speak to all parents using Infection Control Guide). This also applies to vulnerable children and adults with certain medical conditions.

Swine Flu

Should an outbreak of swine flu occur in nursery we will follow the latest guidelines from the Area Health Authority. At the beginning of August 09 we were advised that swine flu was no longer containable and the only reason schools or closing would be due to staff being off ill.

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if required.