



# Sickness and Illness

EYFS: 3.44, 3.45, 3.46

At **The Mulberry Bush** 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 for children who become ill and to minimise the spread of infection we implement the following procedures:

- If a child becomes ill during the nursery day, we contact their parent(s) and ask them to pick up their child as soon as possible. During this time we care for the child in a quiet, calm area with their key person, wherever possible
- We follow the guidance published by Public Health England (Health Protection in Schools and other childcare facilities) and advice from our local health protection unit on exclusion times for specific illnesses, e.g. sickness and diarrhoea, measles and chicken pox, to protect other children at The Mulberry Bush. HOWEVER the nursery reserves the right to implement our own guidance on certain illnesses. These exceptions are specified below: in ALL cases we require a doctor to identify the nature of the illness/rash/infection;
- Hand, foot and mouth: Children are able to attend the setting if they do not have a temperature.
- Slapped cheek: We do not require the child to be excluded from the setting once the rash has appeared, as it will no longer be infectious, however we do request that the illness is identified by a doctor, so that other parents can be warned;
- Should a child have an infectious illness, such as a stomach bug with sickness and/or diarrhoea, they must not return to nursery until at least 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea;
- 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 are 2 cases of a contagious infection identified in the nursery, to enable them to spot the 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
- We exclude all children on antibiotics for the first 48 hours of the course for a contagious illness or 24 hours for a non-contagious (unless this is part of an ongoing care plan to treat individual medical conditions e.g. asthma and the child is not unwell) This is because 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
- 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



## **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.

## **Contact**

### **Hampshire and Isle of Wight HPT (South East)**

Public Health England  
Fareham Borough Council  
Civic Offices  
Civic Way  
Fareham  
Hampshire  
PO16 7AZ

Email [HIOW@phe.gov.uk](mailto:HIOW@phe.gov.uk); [phe.hiow@nhs.net](mailto:phe.hiow@nhs.net)

Telephone 0344 225 3861 (option 1 to 4 depending on area)

Out of hours advice 0844 967 0082

## **Coronavirus**

Only children who are symptom free or have completed the required isolation period can attend the setting

- On arrival at the nursery, parents will be asked if their child or any member of the household have any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (high temperature, a persistent cough, or anosmia (loss or change of smell or taste)). If the answer is yes, they should not be allowed to leave their child at the setting. The child cannot return until either the isolation period is completed or if a test is taken and result is negative. All test results must be forwarded to management to confirm with and agreed return.
- To confirm that they have taken their child's temperature prior to them attending the nursery and that it is not above 37.8°. If their temperature is above this, they should not be allowed to leave their child at the setting. The child cannot return until either the isolation period is completed or if a test is taken and result is



negative. All test results must be forwarded to management to confirm with and agreed return.

- It is the responsibility of the parent to inform the management team if a member of their household or the child becomes unwell and therefore needs to isolate
- All children coming to the setting should avoid all non-essential public transport travel, and outside of setting hours, follow national guidelines for social interaction
- Any child who has taken any form of paracetamol or ibuprofen will not be allowed into nursery for 48hours after symptoms have ended. For children who may be teething, teething salts or gel should be used as an alternative
- Children who usually attend more than one setting should choose one setting to attend only
- Any person or child contacted by the NHS track and trace system must follow advice given and isolate for the required amount of time or be tested before returning to nursery

If a child shows symptoms whilst at nursery then they will be sent home in accordance to government guidance.

- A child awaiting collection should be moved, if possible and appropriate, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door with a member of staff (ideally training room as glass doors still provide for another member of staff to monitor and support if needed)
- If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, the bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected before being used by anyone else
- The member of staff who is supervising the child will wear full PPE including face mask, gloves and apron
- If a member of staff has helped someone who displayed symptoms they do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves
- Children and staff who have been in the same room as a child displaying symptoms will not need to be sent home unless a positive test result is received. If the child does receive a positive test result all children who have been within the same bubble as the child displaying symptoms within the last 14 days will be sent home to self-isolate as per government guidance for 14days.

If Clinical advice is needed, the setting staff, parent or guardian should go online to NHS 111 or call 111.

- Where a child, member of staff, or anyone within the same household receives a positive test result or if there is an outbreak (more than 2 cases) the entire would be sent home to isolate for the required amount of time set out as per government guidelines. No child or member of staff would be permitted to return until the isolation period had been completed
- Following a suspected or confirmed case within the nursery staff will deep clean all areas the child/adult came into contact with by using disposable cloths and a combine's detergent disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1,000 parts per million available chlorine
- Staff will avoid creating splashes or sprays whilst cleaning
- Any clothes and mop heads used must be disposed of and should be put in waste bags.

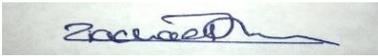


- When items cannot be cleaned using detergents or laundered steam cleaning should be used.
  - Any waste from possible cases and cleaning of areas where possible cases have been should;
    - Be put in a plastic rubbish bag and tied when full
    - The plastic bag should then be placed in a second bag and tied
    - It should be put in a suitable and secure place and marked for storage until the individuals test results are known
  - Waste should be stored safely and kept away from children
  - If the individual's test result is negative, this can be put in the normal waste
- If the individual's test result is positive, the nursery will arrange for collection as a category B infectious waste

### **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) and arrange to meet them at the hospital
- 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

<b>This policy was adopted on</b>	<b>Signed on behalf of the nursery</b>	<b>Date for review</b>
08.09.2020		08.09.2020