



SICK CHILD POLICY

(Including reporting notifiable diseases)

POLICY STATEMENT

We provide care for healthy children and promote health preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections. To help keep children healthy and minimise infection, we do not expect children to attend nursery if they are unwell or showing symptoms of sickness/infections. If a child is unwell or showing symptoms of sickness/infections, it is in their best interest to be in a home environment with caring adults they know well rather than at nursery with their peers. Also, this helps to reduce the possibility of cross contamination across the setting.

PROCEDURES

- If children appear unwell during the day – have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – the manager calls the parents and asks them to collect the child, or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing, sponging their heads with cool water, but kept away from draughts.
- Temperature is taken using a 'fever scan' kept near to the first aid box.
- In extreme cases of emergency, the child should be taken to the nearest hospital and the parent informed.
- Parents are asked to take their child to the doctor before returning them to nursery; the nursery can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea and/or if there is a concern that there may be a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting.
- After diarrhoea, parents are asked to keep children home for 48 hours or until a formed stool is passed.
- The setting has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is obtainable from [Chapter 9: managing specific infectious diseases - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) and includes common childhood illnesses..

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'

- If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering from a notifiable disease under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency.
- When the setting becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the manager informs Ofsted and acts on any advice given by the Health Protection Agency.



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/slucing clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and is bagged for parents to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using mild disinfectant solution and mops; cloths used are disposed of with the clinical waste.
- Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.
- Children do not share toothbrushes. Parents are asked to provide a toothbrush, cup and toothbrush cover for their child.

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. Parents are asked to confirm they have followed the procedures for recovery.
- On identifying cases of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.

EXCLUSION PROCEDURE FOR ILLNESS / COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

The minimum exclusion periods are shown on the below. In the event of a child or adult suffering from a notifiable disease e.g. meningitis, or in the case of food poisoning affecting two or more children, Ofsted will be informed. Detailed below are some of the most common illnesses. This is not an exhaustive list but gives some idea of the national guidance we follow, along with good practice within the nursery to protect ALL children and adults within our care.



<i>Disease/Illness</i>	<i>Minimal Exclusion Period</i>
Antibiotics prescribed	24 hour exclusion from nursery and can only return if they are well.
Temperature	Will be sent home, excluded until temperature has returned to a normal level for a period of 24 hours without the need for medication.
Vomiting	48 hour exclusion after last episode
Conjunctivitis	Child can return to nursery with treatment – after an exclusion period of 24 hours
Diarrhoea	48 hour exclusion after last episode
Chickenpox	7 days exclusion from appearance of spots. Children can only return if all spots have scabbed and they are well.
Gastro-enteritis, food poisoning, salmonellosis and dysentery	Min 48 hours, Health Protection Agency will be contacted for advice*
Infective hepatitis	Exclusion until all clear from GP
Measles	Exclusion until all clear from GP

Meningococcal infection	Until recovered from the illness
Mumps	Excluded until full recovery is made
Pertussis (whooping cough)	21 days from the onset of paroxysmal cough
Poliomyelitis	Until declared free from infection by the appropriate public health official.
Scarlet fever and streptococcal infection of the throat	Until appropriate medical treatment has been given and in no case for less than 3 days from the start of treatment. GP or Health Protection Agency to advise.
Tuberculosis	Until declared free from infection by the appropriate public health official
Typhoid fever	Until declared free from infection by the appropriate public health official
Impetigo	Excluded until the infected areas have dried and there are no more fluid-filled blisters.
Pediculosis (lice)	No exclusion where appropriate treatment is being given and duration does not exceed three weeks
Plantar warts	No exclusion. Should be treated and covered
Ringworm of scalp	Until cured
Ringworm of body	Seldom necessary to exclude provided treatment is being given
Slapped Cheek Syndrome (Fifth Disease, Parvovirus)	Kept away from nursery until well.
Scabies	Excluded until all clear from GP

*Note: If an outbreak/high number of infections occur, the exclusion period may be extended on the advice of Health Protection Agency.



Regarding the Covid-19 Pandemic the nursery will follow the guidance from the local authority and government in line with the nursery best practice.

This policy was adopted on: _____

Date to be reviewed: _____

Signed on behalf of Ivy League Nursery: _____

Name of Signatory: _____

Role of Signatory: _____