

## Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health

The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents and/or carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.



## 16. Managing children who are sick, infectious, or with allergies

### Ducklings pre-school Policy statement

At Ducklings pre-school we provide care for healthy children through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic trigger.

### Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

- If children appear unwell during the day – have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – the supervisor/deputy supervisor 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 'Digital ear thermometer' kept in the cupboard next to the first aid box.
- If the child's temperature does not go down and is worryingly high, then we may give them Calpol, after first obtaining verbal consent from the parent where possible. This is to reduce the risk of febrile convulsions. Parents sign the medication record when they collect their child.
- In extreme cases of emergency, an ambulance is called and the parent informed.
- Parents are asked to take their child to the doctor before returning them to the pre-school.
- We can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease, or if they have been given Calpol for any reason prior to attending their session.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, we ask parents to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the pre-school.
- After diarrhoea and sickness, we ask parents keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode or until a formed stool is passed.
- Some activities, such as sand and water play, and self-serve snacks where there is a risk of cross-contamination may be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.
- The pre-school has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times from the Health Protection Agency. The poster is displayed on the back of the storage cupboard door and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles. The full list is obtainable from [www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb\\_C/1194947358374](http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1194947358374) and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.

### *Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'*

- If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the GP will report this to the Public Health England.
- When the pre-school becomes aware of two or more confirmed cases of a notifiable disease, the Chairperson, Ofsted representative or supervisor informs Ofsted and the Public Health England and act(s) on any advice given.

### *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. We:
- 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.
- Rinse soiled clothing and bag it for parents to collect.
- Clean up spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit using 'sanitaire' an absorbing mild disinfectant powder which is swept up and disposed of in a separate tied up bag.
- Tables and other furniture affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using disinfectant spray and paper towel.
- Toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using Milton sterilising solution, following the directions on the bottle.

### *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.
- 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.

### *Procedures for children with allergies*

- When children start at our pre-school we ask their parents if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the registration form.
- If a child has an allergy, a risk assessment form is completed to detail the following:
  - The allergen (i.e. the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc).
  - The nature of the allergic reactions e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc.
  - What to do in case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how it is to be used (e.g. EpiPen).
  - Control measures – such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen.
  - Review measures.

- This risk assessment form is kept in the child's personal file and staff are informed both verbally and they are also shown visually.
- Staff are trained in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction.
- Generally, no nuts or nut products are used within the pre-school.
- Parents are made aware so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in, for example to a party.

*Insurance requirements for children with allergies and disabilities*

- If necessary, our insurance will include children with any disability or allergy, but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below. For children suffering life threatening conditions, or requiring invasive treatments; written confirmation from our insurance provider must be obtained to extend the insurance.
- At all times we ensure that the administration of medication is compliant with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Oral medication:
  - Asthma inhalers are now regarded as 'oral medication' by insurers and so documents do not need to be forwarded to our insurance provider. Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.
  - We must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.
  - We adhere to all risk assessment procedures for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
  - We must have the parents or guardians' prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file. It is not necessary to forward copy documents to our insurance provider.
- Life-saving medication and invasive treatments:
 

These include adrenaline injections (EpiPen's) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc) or invasive treatments such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy).

  - We must have:
    - a letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication if any is to be administered;
    - written consent from the parent or guardian allowing our staff to administer medication; and
    - proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children's nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse.
  - Copies of all three documents relating to these children must first be sent to the Pre-school Learning Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.
- Key person for special needs children requiring assistance with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.:
  - Prior written consent must be obtained from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
  - The staff must have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include receiving appropriate instructions from parents or guardians.

- Copies of all letters relating to these children must first be sent to the Pre-school Learning Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.
- If we are unsure about any aspect, we contact the Pre-school Learning Alliance Insurance Department on 020 7697 2585 or email [membership@pre-school.org.uk](mailto:membership@pre-school.org.uk).

This managing children who are sick, infectious or with allergies policy was adopted by	NGCA Ducklings pre-school
On	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
Date to be reviewed	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Signed on behalf of the management committee	
Name of signatory	Tristan Woolfenden
Role of signatory	Chairperson