



ACCIDENT, ILLNESS, MEDICATION & EXCLUSION POLICY

Statement

It is the policy of this nursery that children in our care are always kept safe.

The nursery understands its duty to promote the good health of the children, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action when they are ill. In this respect the nursery is fully compliant with Section 3: The safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years outcomes.

Procedure

At Greenhouse Farm Nursery we realize that all children have minor illnesses, such as minor coughs and colds, from time to time that do not prevent them from attending. In these circumstances the nursery staff will allow children to attend. The nursery is also aware that some children have longer term illnesses and conditions that, while serious, do not affect their day-to-day life and that living a “normal” life and attending early years care is an important part of their coping with that illness. These cases will always be discussed with the parents/guardians at the enrollment stage and a suitable plan of care will be agreed which may involve the administration of medication.

However, the nursery is also aware that some children will have minor or serious illnesses from time to time that should prevent them from attending. **It is therefore the policy of the nursery that children who have anything more than a minor illness should be kept at home. This is particularly important in the case of any infectious illness that might be spread.**

- If a child arrives at the nursery ill, the senior member of staff will take the decision as to whether the child is fit to attend or not. If not, the parent will be asked to take the child home.
- If a child becomes ill while at the nursery or has an accident then the manager will be asked to see the child immediately and the child's parents/guardians should be called and asked to collect the child. While waiting for the parents/guardians the child will be monitored and comforted and given the chance to rest in a quiet area. If the child's condition worsens such that it causes concern to the manager and staff then suitable medical treatment should be arranged in the form of transport to Accident and Emergency as appropriate and the parents/guardians informed.
- In the event of an illness or accident requiring hospital treatment, the person in charge will try to inform the parents/guardians immediately and arrange to have the child taken to hospital via an ambulance. The person who accompanies the child will stay with them until the parents/guardians/emergency contact arrive. Any relevant information will be taken with the child to the hospital – enrolment form, medication form and a detail of illness/accident. In all cases the manager will complete a detailed report of what happened, and action taken.
- Any illness, accident or injury to a child will be recorded in the accident book and, in the case of a serious injury, an appropriate report made to Ofsted as required by the Early Years outcomes and RIDDOR. Reports should be made via the Ofsted Contact Centre. Serious accidents, injuries or deaths occurring in relation to early years services must be notified to Ofsted as soon as is reasonably possible and in all cases within 14 days of the incident. A registered provider, who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with this requirement commits an offence.

Accident and Illness

We reserve the right to administer basic first aid treatment when necessary.

Parents will be informed of all accidents and **will be required to sign an accident form on collection of their child**. You will also be informed of any accidents via the ParentZone app and must sign an online form. For accidents of a more serious nature, involving hospital treatment, all attempts will be made by nursery to contact the parents but failing this, we are hereby authorised to act on behalf of parents and authorise necessary treatments.

We will administer prescribed medications and paracetamol for teething if parents complete a medicine consent form and it is within the instructions on the medication. If your child is prescribed antibiotics, the first 24hrs of the medication must be given at home, this is due to potential reactions that they may have (even if they have been prescribed this antibiotic before).

We may require parents to collect their child from nursery if it is considered that the child is not well enough to attend. We may also ask parents to collect their children from nursery if we have reasonable cause to believe that they are, may be suffering from, or have suffered from, any contagious disease or infection and there remains a danger to the children at the nursery. **Parents are requested to inform nursery if their child is suffering from any illness sickness or allergies before attending nursery.**

We have a realistic attitude to the needs of working parents, but we reserve the right to contact parents if their child becomes ill during nursery hours. Please ensure your child is fully recovered before bringing them back into nursery in order to prevent recurring illnesses.

Exclusion periods:

Below is a list of our exclusion times. This list is not exhaustive. Any further illnesses please ask management.

Chicken pox	Until every spot has completely scabbed over-usually 5-8 days
Sickness/diarrhoea	Not to return until 48hrs after the last episode
Conjunctivitis	24hours after first treatment
Hand, foot and mouth	Until all scabbed over
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted
Head lice	Until treated
Measles	4 days from onset of rash
Mumps	7 days after onset of swelling and child is well
Whooping cough	5 days from starting antibiotic treatment
Scarlet fever	24 hours after starting antibiotics/ 2 weeks after symptoms have started if no antibiotics are involved.
German measles	4 days from the onset of rash
Covid 19	See government guidelines

Although children often get coughs and cold it is not always essential to keep your child off nursery but if this is accompanied by a fever it is recommended to keep them off nursery as we cannot administer paracetamol for fevers.

Reviewed December 2023

