

04 Health procedures

04.05 Poorly children

- If a child appears unwell during the day, for example has a raised temperature, sickness, diarrhoea* or and/pains, particularly in the head or stomach then the pre-school manager/deputy calls the parents/carers and asks them to collect the child or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.
- If a child has a raised temperature, top clothing may be removed to make them more comfortable, but children are not undressed or sponged down to cool their temperature. A high temperature should never be ignored, but it is a natural response to infection.
- A child's temperature is taken and checked regularly, using an underarm thermometer.
- In an emergency an ambulance is called and the parents/carers are informed.
- Parents/carers are advised to seek medical advice before returning them to the pre-school; the pre-school can refuse admittance to children who have a raised temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, parents/carers are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours.
- After diarrhoea or vomiting, parents/carers are asked to keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.
- Some activities such as sand and water play and self-serve snack may be suspended for the duration of any outbreak - a sensory play risk assessment will be carried out.

*Diarrhoea is defined as 3 or more liquid or semi-liquid stools in a 24-hour period.

(www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-9-managing-specific-infectious-diseases#diarrhoea-and-vomiting-gastroenteritis)

- Latest guidance on coronavirus is looked up online if necessary.

The pre-school has information about excludable diseases and exclusion times on its website [Our Illness Policy | Info | Little Doves Christian Pre-School \(littledovescp.org.uk\)](#)

- The pre-school manager notifies the trustees if there is an outbreak of an infection (affects more than 3 to 4 children) and keeps a record of the numbers and duration of each event.
- The pre-school manager has a list of notifiable diseases and contacts Public Health England (PHE) and Ofsted in the event of an outbreak.
- If staff suspect that a child who falls ill whilst in their care is suffering from a serious disease that may have been contracted abroad such as Ebola, immediate medical assessment is required. The pre-school manager or deputy calls NHS111 and informs parents/carers.

HIV/AIDS 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 non latex 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 bagged for parents/carers to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using mild disinfectant solution/antibacterial spray and mops; cloths used are disposed of in the nappy/clinical waste bin.
- Any clinical waste is disposed of in the nappy/clinical waste bin. The contents of this are disposed of in a bag, tied and disposed of.
- Tables and other furniture or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.
- Toddler mouthing toys are kept clean and plastic toys cleaned regularly.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition; although in exceptional cases parents/carers may be asked to keep the child away from the pre-school until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, all parents/carers are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family, using current recommended treatments methods if they are found.

Non-prescription medicine e.g. Calpol/Antihistamine (unless part of a medical record/health care plan)

The pre-school cannot take bottles of non-prescription medicine from parents/carers to hold on a 'just in case' basis, unless there is an immediate reason for doing so or is part of the child's medical record/health care plan. The pre-school does not normally keep such medicine on the premises as staff are not allowed to 'prescribe'. A child who is not well and has a temperature, must be kept cool and the parents/carers asked to collect straight away.

Further guidance

Good Practice in Early Years Infection Control (Pre-school Learning Alliance 2009)

Medication Administration Record (Early Years Alliance 2019)

Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings (Public Health Agency)

https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf

[High temperature \(fever\) in children - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

01/12/2024 V6