

Sickness and Contagious Illness

At Incey Winceys Day Nursery and Preschool it is part of our commitment to ensure the well-being and health of all the children within our care. We therefore adhere to this policy to minimise and where possible prevent the spread of sickness and contagious illnesses, as well as dealing with children who have allergies.

Procedure for children with allergies

When parents start their children at the nursery, they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies; this is recorded on the registration form (contract). If a child has an allergy, it is clearly marked on their place mats, and on an allergy list which is clearly displayed for all staff to see on the notice board in each room. The kitchen is also alerted and if necessary, the chef will speak directly to the parents to find suitable alternative foods. We require written confirmation of this allergy, and we require a health care plan to be written by a health professional if ongoing medication such as Antihistamine (for e.g. 'Piriton') is required for the child prior to starting at nursery.

For a child with an allergy warranting an EpiPen, the parents give consent for staff to administer the EpiPen if necessary and we would access appropriate training. There is always a certified Paediatric first aider in each room and every member of staff is trained in Paediatric first aid within three months of starting and renewed every 3 years.

No nuts or nut products are used within the nursery or preschool.

Parents must not bring nuts or nut products into the nursery for example for a party and staff are vigilant at checking ingredients on packets.

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

If a child appears unwell during the day has a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach, the manager or room leader calls the parents and informs them. They will be expected to be collected at the earliest opportunity.

If we cannot contact the parent, staff use their discretion to administer an emergency dose of liquid Calpol or liquid paracetamol, as emergency consent is provided in the contractual paperwork. **Parents must report the use of Calpol,**

Liquid Paracetamol or Nurofen within 4 hours of coming to nursery to prevent accidental overdose.

If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool by removing top clothing, given plenty of fluids and kept away from draughts.

In extreme cases of emergency, an ambulance will be called, and the child will be taken to the nearest hospital, and the parent will be informed.

On occasion parents are asked to take their child to a doctor before returning them to nursery, to ensure that they are well and not infectious or contagious. The nursery reserves the right to refuse entry to a child who has a temperature, sickness or diarrhoea, or a contagious infection or disease.

Sickness / Diarrhoea

After 3 bouts of diarrhoea or 2 bouts of sickness, a child will be sent home. We may reduce this if we are aware of a bug going round, staff will use their discretion. This procedure also applies to the employees of the nursery.

After sickness or diarrhoea, the parents are asked to keep children home for **48 hours** after the last bout. Employees will also be asked to stay home for 48 hours after the last bout.

We require the honesty of families and employees to keep everyone safe and try to prevent the spread of this contagious illness.

Reporting of 'Notifiable Diseases'

If a child or adult is diagnosed with suffering from a notifiable disease under the Public Health (infectious diseases) Regulations, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency.

When the setting is made aware of this, or is formally informed of a notifiable disease, the manager will inform OFSTED and act 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.

InceyWinceys Day Nursery

- Single use vinyl gloves are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit. Spillage is cleared using mild disinfectant solution and cloths are then disposed of with the clinical waste.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and either bagged for parents to collect or laundered in the nursery premises.
- Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.

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 check their child's hair and treat as appropriate if they are found to have head lice.

Conjunctivitis

If the child develops symptoms of conjunctivitis during the day, the parent is called to request that a doctor's appointment is made, or drops are obtained from the pharmacy. The child should be treated with appropriate eye drops. The drops should be administered at least once at home prior to returning to nursery to ensure there are no problems with the medication.

Chickenpox, Measles, Mumps or Rubella

The child should be kept at home for 7 days from the appearance of the symptoms (rash, spots or swelling) and upon advice of a doctor is necessary.

Gastro-enteritis or food poisoning

The child should not return for at least 48 hours and by the advice of a doctor.

The following are infectious illnesses and parents should seek medical advice before the child returns:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Streptococcal Infection | • Glandular Fever | • Slapped cheek/ fifth disease |
| • Hepatitis A and B | • Scabies | |
| • Scarlet Fever | • Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease | |
| • Impetigo | • Tuberculosis (TB) | |
| • Whooping Cough | • Typhoid | |

Revised on 10th October 2026