



Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health

6.2 Managing children who are sick, infectious, or with allergies

(Including reporting notifiable disease)

Policy statement

We aim to provide care for healthy children preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections and promote good 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 - for example, if they have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach - manager will call the parents and ask them to collect the child, or to send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing and sponging their heads with warm water and kept away from draughts.
- The child's temperature is taken using a digital non-contact thermometer, kept at room temperature in playroom.
- If the child's temperature reaches 38 degrees, we will contact parents immediately and ask for their child to be collected as quickly as possible.
- With prior written consent and after obtaining verbal consent from the parent where possible we may administer one dose of Calpol. This is to reduce the risk of febrile convulsions, particularly for babies. This is recorded in the medication record and signed by parents when they collect their child.
- After a child has had Calpol their temperature will be taken every 10 mins for 30 mins or until the temperature has reduced.
- In extreme cases of emergency, an ambulance is called, and the parent informed.
- If parents or emergency contacts are not contactable and the child's temperature rises after 4 hours, then a second dose of Calpol may be administered and recorded in the medication record and signed by parents when they collect their child.
- We can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.

- 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 setting.
- After sickness and diarrhoea, we ask parents to keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.
- 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.
- We have a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is obtainable from 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 as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the GP will report this to Public Health England.
- When we become aware, or are formally informed of the notifiable disease, our manager informs Ofsted and contacts 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:

- Wear single-use vinyl gloves and aprons when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Bag-soiled clothing for parents to take home for cleaning.
- Clear spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit using mild disinfectant solution and mops; any cloths used are disposed of with the clinical waste.
- Clean any tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit using a disinfectant.
- Ensure that children do not share tooth brushes, which are also soaked weekly in sterilising solution.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition; although in exceptional cases we may ask a parent to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, we inform all parents ask them 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 the setting 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, we complete a risk assessment/care plan form 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/care plan form is kept in the child's personal file and a copy is displayed in the kitchen where staff can see it.
- Generally, no nuts or nut products are used within the setting.
- 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 and 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 (if you have another provider, please check their procedures with them). 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 key person 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 (if you have another provider, please check their procedures with them. 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/insert details of your insurance provider.

Health care plan

- Where children have any illnesses or allergies as mentioned above then a health plan will be drawn up between the leader, parent and doctor where necessary.

This policy was adopted by	Sennen and Land's End Pre-school
On	
Date to be reviewed	
Name of signatory	
Role of signatory	