

## **Sickness / Medication Policy**

Date – 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020

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To be reviewed – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022

We are unable to care for any child or young person who has an illness or infection which may be contagious and may ask for a doctor's diagnosis where parents are unsure of the cause. (colds / coughs excepted) If parents are unsure whether a child or young person is well enough to attend they should contact us and we will follow the guidelines issued by the Health Protection Agency when making decisions. Parents should also consider whether their child is able to participate fully in the day-to-day routine of the setting including being outdoors for large periods of time.

In the case of vomiting or diarrhoea children & young people must not attend for 48 hours after the last episode. Sickness bugs are extremely infectious and can have severe consequences for small children, and the 48 hour rule is in line with government guidelines.

If a child becomes ill whilst in our care we will contact parents / carers (or other named person on contact list) to collect them as soon as possible. This is to minimise the risk of infections being passed to other children and staff. It is also for the child's wellbeing, who will benefit from being at home.

Medicine can be administered with prior written consent from the parent; this includes both prescription and non-prescription medicines. For short term medication (e.g calpol / nurofen) written consent needs to be given for each occasion the medicine is to be administered and medicine should be labelled with the child's name. Parents will be asked to sign at the end of the day to say they have been informed of any medication given.

Any long term medical needs should be discussed with us fully in advance so that we can ensure children's needs are fully met.

### **Staff**

Staff must not attend work if they have an illness or infection which may be contagious in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Health Protection Agency for schools and childcare settings. (colds / coughs excepted) In the case of vomiting or diarrhoea staff must allow a period of 48 hours from the last episode before returning to work in accordance with government guidelines.

Staff must ensure that their manager is made aware of any health conditions from which they suffer or regular medications that they take and that any changes which may affect their ability to work are disclosed promptly .

If medicines need to be kept available during working hours (eg inhalers, epipens) these must be kept out of the reach of children at all times.