Managing Illness

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| EYFS: 3.45, 3.46, 3.47, 3.48 |

At Georgie Porgie Nurserywe promote the good health of all children attending including oral health by:

* Asking parents to keep children at home if they are unwell. If a child is unwell it is in their best interest to be in a home environment rather than at nursery with their peers.
* Asking staff and other visitors not to attend the setting if they are unwell
* Helping children to keep healthy by providing balanced and nutritious snacks, meals and drinks
* Minimising infection through our rigorous cleaning and hand washing processes Ensuring children have regular access to the outdoors and having good ventilation inside
* Having areas for rest and sleep, where required and sharing information about the importance of sleep and how many hours young children should be having.

**Our procedures**

In order to take appropriate action of children who become ill and to minimise the spread of infection we implement the following procedures:

* If a child becomes ill during the nursery day, we contact their parent(s) and ask them to pick up their child as soon as possible. During this time we care for the child in a quiet, calm area with their normal staff member
* When assessing whether a child is fit to be at nursery we use our knowledge of the child and how illness’s may present themselves Parents can be assured that we recognise key signs of illnesses, smells, pallor, type of vomiting and use this information to inform our decision.
* When a child appears to have a fever , we check their temperature with thermometer. If the temperature is over what is considered to be normal for that child we will call the child’s parents to discuss the situation and whether to administer paracetamol. If later on in the day the child’s temperature rises again and they need a second dose of paracetamol or ibuprofen then we will administer it and ask you to collect your child. If you have given your child paracetamol or ibuprofen at home and they need some later in the day at nursery it is considered the second dose and they will need to be collected. If your child’s temperature is 39.5c or above we will ask you to come and collect your child immediately
* We follow the guidance published by Public Health England (Health Protection in Schools and other childcare facilities) and advice from our local health protection unit on exclusion times for specific illnesses, e.g. sickness and diarrhoea, measles and chicken pox, to protect other children in the nursery**[[1]](#footnote-1)**

On occasion we will enforce our own policy on exclusion time for example:

Hand Foot and Mouth (HFM) we ask that the child remains away from nursery until 5 days after the symptoms first appeared

* Should a child have an infectious disease, such as sickness and diarrhoea, they must not return to nursery until they have been clear for at least 48 hours
* We thoroughly clean and sterilise all equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child to reduce the spread of infection
* We notify Ofsted as soon as is reasonably practical, but in any event within 14 days of the incident of any food poisoning affecting two or more children cared for on the premises.
* We ask parents to keep children on antibiotics at home for the first 48 hours of the course (unless this is part of an ongoing care plan to treat individual medical conditions e.g. asthma and the child is not unwell) This is because it is important that children are not subjected to the rigours of the nursery day, which requires socialising with other children and being part of a group setting, when they have first become ill and require a course of antibiotics
* We have the right to refuse admission to a child who is unwell. This decision will be taken by the manager on duty and is non-negotiable

Meningitis procedure

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has meningitis, the nursery manager will contact the Local Area Infection Control (IC) Nurse. The IC Nurse will give guidance and support in each individual case. If parents do not inform the nursery, we may be contacted directly by the IC Nurse and the appropriate support given. We will follow all guidance given and notify any of the appropriate authorities including Ofsted where necessary.

We will follow the transporting children to hospital procedure in any cases where children may need hospital treatment.

The nursery manager/staff member must:

• Inform a member of the management team immediately

* Call 999 for an ambulance immediately if the illness is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the unwell child in your own vehicle
* Follow the instructions from the 999 call handler
* Whilst waiting for the ambulance, a member of staff must contact the parent(s) and arrange to meet them at the hospital
* Redeploy staff if necessary to ensure there is adequate staff deployment to care for the remaining children. This may mean temporarily grouping the children together
* Arrange for the most appropriate member of staff to accompany the child taking with them any relevant information such as registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child’s comforter
* Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support following the accident.

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| **This policy was adopted on** | **Signed on behalf of the nursery** | **Date for review** |
| *November 21* | *G Jolliffe*  | *November 22* |

1. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)