

SICK CHILD POLICY

(See also Medicines, High Temperature, Outbreak Policies)

Safeguarding and welfare standards - Medicines – 3.44, 3.45, 3.46

Policy statement

Bridgwater & Taunton College Childcare Centre works to promote a supportive relationship with parents that promotes the well-being of each child.

We promote the good health of all children attending. To help keep children healthy and minimise infection, we do not expect children to attend nursery if they are unwell. If a child is unwell it is in their best interest to be in a home environment with adults they know well rather than at nursery with their peers.

We seek co-operation from parents in informing us when children are ill.

We reserve the right to discuss with parents, admission to our Centre if we consider children are not well enough to attend.

In the event of a child becoming ill whilst at the Centre, staff to follow the procedure outlined below:

- Key person or back-up key person to inform senior member of staff or Manager about child.
- Senior member of staff or Manager assesses child and decides upon action.
- Key person, Senior or Manager to contact parent/carer as soon as possible and describe symptoms.
- Ideally Key person or familiar person in team to remain with the child, giving comfort and reassurance
- Symptoms/temperature to be recorded on observation sheets.
- Parents are given the information over the phone. If appropriate they are asked to collect the child.
- Notify other users of the Centre if the child is discovered to have an infectious/contagious condition/illness, respecting the confidentiality of the child/family.
- If an outbreak occurs (refer to outbreak policy) notify Health Protection Team for Somerset on – **0300 303 8162**
- In cases of notifiable diseases, contact Ofsted within a 14 day period in addition to following Health Protection Team advice.
- Centre staff may administer prescribed* medication with parental consent. Medication permission forms are to be completed. (refer to high temperature and medicines policy).
- All new medicines must have been taken 48 hours prior to return to the nursery to ensure no adverse reactions.
- Toilets, door handles and other areas to be cleaned and disinfected as appropriate to help prevent spread of infection.

* Exceptions from prescribed - paracetamol suspension (calpol) teething treatments (from pharmacist) some skin creams such as nappy cream (Manager's Discretion)

If a child needs to be sent home immediately.

- Contact parent/carer
- Make child comfortable, as appropriate dependent on their symptoms.
- Move child to an appropriate area of the building.
- Dress/undress appropriately.
- Comfort and reassure child.
- Continue to monitor and document child's temperature and condition.
- On collection, update and inform parent/carer of relevant details e.g. time of any medicine administered, temperature levels.
- Advise parent /carer to arrange an appointment with their family doctor, if this is felt necessary.
- Request the parent/carer telephones later/next day/ after doctor's appointment to inform the Centre of the diagnosis.

If a child cannot be sent home immediately (parent unable to collect straight away).

- Make child comfortable, as appropriate dependent on their symptoms.
- Encourage quiet activity.
- Inform all staff of the situation and advise close monitoring if the child moves away to play.
- Dress/undress appropriately.
- Regularly assess child.
- Update and inform parent/carer on collection.
- Request parent/carer phones later/next day if there are any developments or a diagnosis.

If a child requires hospitalisation.

- Member of senior staff to accompany child in ambulance.
- Child's details to go with senior member of staff.
- Parents updated by key person or member of reception staff.
- Senior member of staff to hand over responsibility to parent.
- Senior to return to setting and complete appropriate incident form.
- Inform Ofsted of hospitalisation within 14 day period if required.

Children returning to the Centre after illness

- Parent/carer to keep the Centre informed of the child's progress.
- Advise parent/carer on the agreed time of return to the Centre, taking into consideration the illness and incubation period.
- Upon return of the child, if medication is to be given, staff must complete the appropriate medication form.
- If a child has been sent home and upon their return they subsequently present with the same symptoms within a week (48 hours for temperature), the parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child as soon as possible.

Non-prescribed medication permission form (PINK)**Prescribed medication permission form (BLUE)****Regular prescribed medication permission form (GREEN)****Covid-19 - Parents will be asked to Email the details of medication and this will be attached to the relevant form**

If a child refuses to take medication, staff should not force them to do so, but should note this and contact parent/carer immediately.

Ensure parents are contacted immediately if there are any concerns about the child's health

To maintain a healthy environment:

- Sickness and diarrhoea to have a total of 48 hours clear before returning to the Centre
- Children receiving immunisations may not attend the Centre until 24 hours after the immunisation took place. This does not include the nasal spray flu vaccination which there is no exclusion for; however if the child requires a needle process to administer the flu vaccine the 24 hour exclusion will still apply.
- Children who require medication such as Calpol to maintain a correct temperature should not come into the nursery and parents will be asked to take their child home.
- Children who require medication such as Calpol to maintain levels of comfort, for example due to teething, may come in to the nursery (Manager's discretion), but will be assessed on an on-going basis, if the child also has a temperature this will take priority and child will be sent home. Any medication provided by the parent will be returned at the end of a week.

COVID-19

- If anyone becomes unwell whilst at nursery with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, we will contact their parent/carer immediately. The child will be sent home and advised to follow the COVID-19: Guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection.
- Whilst the child is awaiting collection they will be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age of the child, and with appropriate adult supervision (ensuring safeguarding and PPE procedures are met) refer to risk assessment.

Reviewed Date: Sept 2020

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Authorised by: