

## Oaks Nursery

### Sick child policy

During a child's nursery attendance it is highly likely as some time or other illness or sickness will occur. This policy outlines procedures to ensure that a sick child is treated swiftly, with the minimum amount of stress for the child and parents. We will endeavour at all times to communicate effectively with parents and carers.

The nursery takes responsibility to explain clearly to parents our legal and moral approach when dealing with sickness or accidents with a child in our care. Likewise it is expected that parents will adhere to specific procedures and practices detailed within this document.

#### Procedures

- Key persons will consult with their room supervisor if a child appears unwell, then appropriate action will be taken based on the needs of the child
- In the event of a child being taken ill or running a high temperature of 38 degrees or above, parents will be contacted in the first instance to come and collect their child
- In the event of a life threatening episode such as; faints, fits or convulsions whilst in our care, the child will be taken to hospital and parents informed immediately.
- Requests for staff to apply any prescribed creams, drops or ointments will be taken on an individual basis, and will be at the discretion of the senior management team
- *If a child has been prescribed a course of antibiotics they will not be accepted into the nursery until they have received that medication for a full 24 hour period prior to their return*

#### Nursery responsibility

- In the event of infectious illnesses nursery will follow the exclusion periods outlined by the Health Protection Agency *Guidance on infection control in schools and other settings, HPA April 2010*. Children must not return to nursery until the quarantine period has ended
- After a bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea parent will be called to collect their child immediately. Viruses stay active in bodily fluids and faeces for up to 2 days after symptoms occur so to minimise the risk of contamination to other children and staff a nursery exclusion period of 48 hours after the last episode is required
- In the event of an illness that requires medical treatment nursery will contact parents in the first instance, and wherever possible wait for the parent to accompany the child to hospital

- Should the situation require urgent action the child will be transported to hospital immediately. Nursery will follow the procedures for alerting the emergency services and a member of staff will accompany the child from nursery to hospital

#### **Parental responsibility**

- Parents are required to provide emergency contact telephone numbers, and those of a know person who can collect a child in their absence. This forms part of the statutory legal requirements for Ofsted registration
- Parents have given permission for emergency treatment to be sought in their absence as detailed in their childcare contract
- Parents are expected to inform nursery immediately of any change to contact numbers or addresses
- Parents are requested to notify nursery if their child is diagnosed with a contagious illness. This is to ensure that we can notify parents of vulnerable children and pregnant women. We can also track any trends, and in some instances we are required to inform the local health authority of any outbreaks of notifiable diseases.
- It is vital that parent's inform nursery of any illnesses or diseases that may impact on the child's wellbeing whilst in our care. Staff need relevant information to ensure that they are best prepared should a child be taken ill. This includes the disclosure of medical history such as fits and convulsions.

**Adopted on:**

**Signed on behalf of the Oaks Day Nursery:**

**Name: Chris Comper**

**Job title: Nursery Manager**

**Date: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2011**