Illness and infection control procedures

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| Written by – Alice Mcpherson | Date – 16.07.2021 |

All steps are taken to protect children from illness and infection.

**EYFS requirement 3.44** **states** –

*‘The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents and/or carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.’*

**Illness and Infection Control Procedures** include –

* Cleaning and sterilising play areas.
* Daily cleaning of toys and other resources.
* Ensuring children have sole use of resources which may transfer infection such as sand, water and messy play including cooking and playdough.
* Providing tissues, a lidded bin and hand wipes for the children to use independently – monitoring children’s use and requiring hand washing after use.
* Teaching children to cough or sneeze into their elbows (like and elephant) and then wash their hands.
* Using good hand washing techniques to prevent the spread of infection and cross contamination.
* Teaching children to wash their hands regularly and effectively.
* Dealing with bodily fluids safely.

**Note**: soiled clothes will usually be handed to parents for cleaning.

* Keeping children safe around animals – please see Animal / Pet Policy for more information.
* Talking to children about health and safety, germs, viruses etc as appropriate for their ages and levels of understanding.

**If a child falls ill** – parents will be asked to collect them as quickly as possible and keep them at home for the advised exclusion time including, for example –

* 48 hours after last bout for diarrhoea and sickness
* 7 days for coronavirus symptoms
* Until they are better after colds, flu etc
* Following Health Protection England guidance for other common childhood illnesses.
* 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.

**Procedure if a child falls ill**

\*\*The child will be treated using first aid and / or medication (with prior written permission) if appropriate.

\*\*The child will be isolated if necessary.

\*\*Every effort will be made to telephone parents to collect the child.

\*\*In an emergency, 999 / 111 will be contacted for further advice.

\*\*Emergency contacts will be telephoned if parents are not available.

**Note**: it is important that parents provide at least 2 emergency contacts for each child.

As a rule, a child is unable to participate in normal daily routines, is irritable, continuously crying or requires more attention than can be safely provided without impeding the health, safety and wellbeing of other children in the setting or is not well enough to attend other provisions such as school or nursery, they should be at home with parents.

**If parents are ill** – please consider whether it is safe to bring your child to the setting, to protect your child, other children, and staff members. If you need to ask someone else to collect your child, you must supply a password and photo of them for us to use.

**If staff are ill** – parents will be contacted as soon as reasonably practicable and asked to collect the child. Staff carry Emergency Contact Information for children on outings.

**Note**: if staff illness is related to coronavirus, Public Health England advice will be followed.

**Confidentiality** – where possible, confidentiality will be maintained; however, please note that details of illnesses will be shared if advised by the Local Authority, Public Health England, Ofsted, or other agencies. Please see the Confidentiality Policy for more information.

**Reporting a notifiable disease -** it is the duty of the attending doctor to determine whether a disease is notifiable and then to inform the Local Authority. In some instances, where required in the statutory framework, providers must inform the Local Authority, Ofsted, and the Health Protection Agency.

If you have any questions about my Policy / Procedures or would like to make any comments, please ask.

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| Signed -  | Review date –  |