

Favours Day Nursery Ltd Policy and Procedure

Sickness & Illness

At Favours Day Nursery we 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 cleaning and hand-washing processes
- Ensuring children have regular access to the outdoors and having good ventilation inside
- Sharing information with parents about the importance of the vaccination programme for young children to help protect them and the wider society from communicable diseases
- Sharing information from the Department of Health that all children aged 6 months – 5 years should take a daily vitamin
- 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 calm area with their key person (wearing PPE), wherever possible
- We review the guidance published by UK Health Security Agency for managing specific infectious diseases 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
- We inform all parents if there is a contagious infection identified in the nursery, to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness. We 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. Any parents who delay giving their child antibiotics after they have been prescribed may be reported to Northamptonshire Safeguarding Hub.
- 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
- We make information about head lice readily available and all parents are requested to regularly check their children's hair. If a parent finds that their child has head lice, we would be grateful if they could inform the nursery so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair.

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.

Transporting Child to Hospital Procedure

- Follow procedure as shown in the Accidents and First Aid policy

This policy will be reviewed at least annually and/or after a significant incident, e.g. serious illness, hospital visit required.

Infection or complaint	Period to be kept away from nursery	Comments
Chickenpox	Keep the individual away from the setting for at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over	Pregnant staff contacts should consult with their GP or midwife.
Conjunctivitis	Return 12 hours after treatment started or once cleared	
Croup	48 hours after symptoms began and they are well enough to return	
Diarrhoea and vomiting (gastroenteritis)	Exclude the infected individual until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped and they are well enough to return.	Diarrhoea is defined as 3 or more liquid or semi-liquid stools (type 6 or 7) within a 24-hour period.
Group A Streptococcus (GAS)	An individual with a strep A infection, should stay away from the setting for 48 hours after starting to take antibiotics.	Milder infections caused by Strep A include scarlet fever, impetigo and 'strep throat'.
Hand, foot and mouth	5 days from when the symptoms start and they are well enough to return.	Pregnant contacts should consult with their GP or midwife
Head lice	Return after ongoing treatment has started	
Impetigo	Exclude the individual from the setting until all lesions (sores or blisters) are crusted over or until 48 hours after commencing treatment (antibiotics and / or hydrogen peroxide cream).	
Influenza	Exclude individuals with symptoms of the flu, until they have recovered.	However, do not exclude individuals with only mild symptoms of a respiratory illness, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, but who are otherwise well.
Respiratory infections, including coronavirus (COVID-19)	It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional. Exclude any affected individual who has a high temperature and are unwell until they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to attend the setting.	
Ringworm	Advise the individual to seek advice from a GP for recommended treatment. Once treatment has started, individuals can return after 12 hours.	Ensure the individual with ringworm of the feet is wearing socks and trainers.
Scarlet fever	Exclude the affected individual from the setting until 48 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment.	Individuals who decline treatment with antibiotics should be excluded until resolution of symptoms.
Slapped cheek	Return once the rash has fully	Anyone exposed to an affected

syndrome (Fifth disease or Parvovirus B19)	appeared and the child is well enough, usually 3-5 days from start of the symptoms	individual early in pregnancy (before 20 weeks) should be advised to seek prompt advice from whoever is providing antenatal care.
Threadworm infection	Return 12 hours after treatment started	Treatment needed for whole household
Whooping cough (pertussis)	Exclude the infectious individual until they have had at least 48 hours of the appropriate antibiotic or 21 days from the onset of the symptoms if no antibiotics have been taken and they feel well enough to return.	Encourage parents or carers to have their child or young person immunised against whooping cough.

March 2002

Updated February 2026

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Written with guidance from the National Day Nurseries Association & gov.uk