

5.4 Sickness and Illness Policy

At **Wonderland Day Nursery** we promote the good health of all children attending including oral health.

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 ask that all staff and visitors to not attend the setting if they feel they are not well enough to attend.
- We help children to keep healthy by providing balanced and nutritious snacks, meals and drinks.
- We help minimise infection through our rigorous cleaning and hand washing processes (see infection control policy) 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 disease [Vaccinations & immunisations | Toddler | Start for Life \(www.nhs.uk\)](#) Sharing information from the department of health that all children aged 6 months - 5 years should take a daily vitamin. [Vitamins for children - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#) - this link is available on the nursery website. Unless the children are on formula milk where all the vitamins are included in this milk.

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. Sleep hygiene in children and young people | Great Ormond Street Hospital (gosh.nhs.uk) This is also available on our website.

Our procedures

To take appropriate action for 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)/Carers 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 key person (wearing PPE) wherever possible if needed.
- We follow 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

- Should a child or staff member 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 from the last bout of diarrhoea or vomiting.
- 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 thoroughly clean and sterilise all equipment and resources that may have been in contact with a contagious child to reduce the spread of infection with sterilising solution.
- We notify Ofsted as soon as reasonably practical, but in any event within 14 days of the incident of any food poisoning affecting two or more children or staff on the premises.

Children on antibiotics can attend Wonderland Day Nursery if they have had the first dose administered at home without any reactions and are well enough in themselves to be at the nursery and not need one to one care. We can give medication if this is part of an ongoing care plan to treat individual medical conditions such as inhalers for Asthma

- 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 head lice readily available should we have a case of headlice in our email correspondence and it on our website. [Head lice and nits - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice/), we ask that parents and carers 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. If a child is found to have headlice we will call the parent and ask for them to be collect as soon as possible so that their hair can be treated. We then ask for the child's hair to be treated and combed through with the head lice solution that can be bought from the chemist (following the manufactures guidelines on the age range guidance and directions.) Once the child has been treated, they may return back to the nursery.

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 will be contacted directly by the IC Nurse and the appropriate support will be given. We will follow all guidance given and notify any of the appropriate authorities including Ofsted if necessary.

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

The nursery manager or selected staff member must:

- Inform a member of 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, 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, the child's comforter and nursery bag that will have spare clothes. There must also be nappies and wipes if the child is not toilet trained yet.
- 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.

If a child has an accident that may require hospital treatment but not an ambulance, the parent(s) will be called and asked to take their child to the hospital seek medical assessment and advice.

If a child has an accident that may require hospital treatment but not an ambulance and the parent have no form of transport to get their child to the hospital, Wonderland Day Nursery may choose to transport children within staff vehicles: We will do the following to ensure the safety of all children.

- Request permission from the parents
- Ensure the ratio requirements of the setting being maintained
- Take into consideration the age and height of the child Further guidance can be found at www.childcarseats.org.uk/types-of-seat/
- There are some exceptions for needing a child seat depending again on their age. Further guidance can be found at www.childcarseats.org.uk/the-law/cars-taxis-private-hire-vehicles-vans-and-goods-vehicles/#under-three
- Two people will ensure the car seat is fitted correctly

- Ensure that the car being used to transport the child has business insurance and only named people on the insurance policy are eligible to transport the children
- To ensure the Safeguarding of the child and Staff member. A designated member of staff should be appointed to plan and provide oversight of all transporting arrangements and respond to any difficulties that may arise. Wherever possible and practicable it is advisable that transport is undertaken other than private vehicles, with at least one other staff member additional to the driver to accompany the child in the passenger seat acting as an escort. Staff should ensure that their behaviour is safe and that the transport arrangements and the vehicle meet all legal requirements. They should ensure that the vehicle is roadworthy and appropriately insured and that the maximum capacity is not exceeded.

Both Staff members of staff travelling in the car will be paediatric first aid trained in the event if the child's health begins to deteriorate during