



Sick Child Policy

At Loversall Farm Day Nursery 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.

Our Procedures

In the interest of keeping children healthy and minimising infection we will implement the following procedures:

- If a child becomes ill during the nursery day, their parent(s) will be contacted and asked to pick up their child as soon as possible. During this time the child will be cared for in a quiet, calm area with their key person, wherever possible. Where a child is sent home from nursery, staff will record the date and reason for sending the child home on the attendance log.
- We follow the guidance given to us by Public Health England (formerly the Health Protection Agency) in Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and other Child Care Settings (March 2017) 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 and any individual categorised as vulnerable.
- All notifiable diseases will be referred to the PHE and the regulatory body Ofsted, we will follow their advice for informing the parents and how to keep the other children safe (please refer to the notifiable disease procedure and the poster displayed in the foyer).
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as sickness and/or diarrhoea, they must not return to nursery until they have been clear for at least 48 hours. We notify Ofsted where we have any child or staff member with a notifiable disease such as food poisoning, this will be done as soon as practicable but definitely within 14 days of such an incident. If a contagious infection is identified in the nursery, parents will be informed to enable them to spot the early

signs of this illness. All equipment and resources that may have had contact with a contagious child will be cleaned and sterilised thoroughly to reduce the spread of infection.

- We ask that any child requiring antibiotics for the first time are kept at home for the first 24 hours of administration to ensure they do not have an allergic reaction to the medication
- 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

Meningitis Procedure

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has meningitis, the nursery manager will contact the PHE for further advice, we will also contact Public Health Doncaster to make them aware of the situation. If parents do not inform the nursery, we will be contacted directly by the appropriate agencies and the appropriate support will be given. We will follow all guidance and notify any of the appropriate authorities including Ofsted if necessary.

For children showing signs of a temperature, normal first aid procedure will be applied. Children's temperature will be monitored and recorded every 15 minutes on the appropriate record sheet. Fever is a temperature of 38 deg c (100deg f) or over. It is usually a symptom that all is not well. It may be due to a viral or bacterial infection. The rapid rise in temperature in children between six months and five years may cause a fit or convulsion (febrile convulsion), it is therefore essential that staff attempt to reduce the temperature as soon as possible, using natural practice, i.e. removing clothing, using a room fan and providing children with cool water to drink. **Tepid sponging will not be used as this may reduce the temperature too quickly and cause the child to go into a state of shock.**

Practitioners should use their professional judgement and should call parents to collect their child immediately to seek further medical advice if normal first aid procedures are not helping to reduce the temperature.

We seek consent from the parents at the point of registration to administer Calpol in an emergency, this is in respect of reducing a child's temperature. We will however, contact the parents prior to administration to seek additional verbal consent. In situations where we are unable to speak to a parent we will contact the child's other emergency contacts, if we are unable to contact a parent or other emergency contacts we will establish the time of the child's arrival and if they have been present at the nursery for four hours or over, if they have this will ensure that there is no risk of overdose. Our main priority is to reduce the child's temperature to reduce the risk of febrile convulsion. The manager, or in her absence the business manager, will make an informed decision as to whether Calpol should be administered.

The following procedures will be followed in the event of a child developing a temperature whilst in our care.

- Responsible staff member observes that a child may be ill.
- If a temperature is detected the staff member will share her concerns with the Nursery Manager and Room Supervisor.
- The Nursery Manager and/or Room Supervisor will make an assessment of the child's health and will inform parents and carers of their child's condition. Parents and carers will be contacted without further consideration for temperatures of 38° c and above.
- Measures will be taken by a responsible staff member to reduce the child's temperature by:
 - Giving the child plenty of cool water to drink
 - Undress the child to their nappy or vest and pants
 - Keep the room well aired and at a comfortable temperature about 18°c by adjusting the heating or opening a window
 - DO NOT ATTEMPT TO TEPID SPONGE THE CHILD** as this could increase the risk of shock and intensify the situation
 - Administering Calpol if an emergency Calpol consent has been completed by parents
- Whilst waiting for parents and/or carers to collect their child a responsible member of staff will monitor the child's temperature on the child's temperature record chart.
- All information collected will be passed onto parents and carers upon collection of their child.
- Temperature record sheets are to be stored in the medicine file.

The nursery has the right to refuse admission to a child who is unwell. This decision will be taken by the manager on business manager and is non-negotiable.

Transporting Children to Hospital

The nursery manager/staff member must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the sickness is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the sick child in your own vehicle.

- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, contact the parents and arrange to meet them at the hospital (or the nursery if they can get there in time). A child's referral to hospital will not be delayed if waiting for parents.
- 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 the most appropriate member of staff to accompany the child taking with them any relevant information such as registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter. In the first instance this must be the child's key person or a familiar staff member where possible
- Inform a member of the management team immediately.
- Always Remain calm. 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 an accident/incident.

Fees

As per our Fees Payment Procedures fees will continue to be payable for periods of absence due to sickness.

For the purpose of this policy and procedure document the Setting Manager is Debbie Clifford. In her absence this role will be taken by the Business Manager, Ann Finnerty.

Please refer to the following policies and procedures:

- Exclusion
- Health and Safety
- Infection Control
- Medicine
- Notifiable Disease
- Safeguarding

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| This policy was adopted on | 8 September 2018 |
| Signed on behalf of the nursery | |
| Signed by nursery owner | |
| Date of review | September 2026 |