



## Sickness and Illness

EYFS: 3.44, 3.45, 3.46

At The Village Nursery Group 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 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 quiet, calm area with their key person, wherever possible
- If medicine is given to reduce a fever, the child's temperature will be monitored on a 'Temperature Monitoring Form'
- If a child develops a rash, then this will be monitored and recorded on a 'Rash Monitoring Form', this will enable staff to record if the rash is spreading. Staff will advise parents if a child develops a rash at nursery. If the manager is concerned, then they will carry out the "glass test" and if rash does not disappear, take immediate action.
- If a child becomes ill whilst at nursery, every effort will be made to contact the parent/carer. The person named as the emergency contact on the nursery contract will be contacted if the parent/carer is unavailable.
- If a child requires emergency medical assistance, advice will be sought from 999. We may give a child emergency medication (as detailed in child's contract) if we are instructed to by medical staff or if we know this child is ill and requires this (e.g. inhaler or epi-pen). See medication policy.

Supporting Documentation : Child Records, Allergy Information, Medical Care Plan, Public Health Agency: Guidance on Infection Control, EYFS Statutory Framework, NHS Guidance (various) [www.nhs.uk/conditions/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/) Rash Monitoring Form, Temperature Record for children, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>



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- 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 Childcare Settings and advice and 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. However, in all cases, the Manager will make the decision about exclusion for particularly infectious diseases, e.g. conjunctivitis.
- Should a child 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.
- We notify Ofsted as soon as possible and in all cases within 14 days of the incident where we have any child or staff member with food poisoning.
- 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 come into contact with a contagious child to reduce the spread of infection.
- 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.
- If a parent finds that their child has head lice, they should 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 Infection Control (IC) Nurse for their area. 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.

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### Procedure for a Suspected Case of Coronavirus

If anyone in an education or childcare setting becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and advised to follow the [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance](#).

If a child or staff member is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people. The Coronavirus Emergency Box must be collected and used.

If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible. The bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.

PPE should be worn by staff caring for the child or staff member while they await collection, this will include a fluid-resistant face mask, apron and gloves.

In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. Do not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.

PPE will be disposed into bags (Nappy Sacks) double wrapped and then into a bin bag and set outside away from people for 72 hours. After that we can dispose with normal waste.

Face Shields will be cleaned and can be used again.

### Transporting Children to Hospital Procedure

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.

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- 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 and the child's comforter.
- Inform a member of the management team immediately.
- Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support, following the incident.

This policy was reviewed on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
<p><i>Jan 2020</i> Input from Sarah Eyes <i>May 2020</i> based on Government Guidance issued May 11<sup>th</sup> 2020</p> <p>Sept 2021</p>		<p>Jan 2021</p> <p>Sept 2022</p>

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