



## Sickness & Medication Policy & Procedure

It is our responsibility to ensure the health and safety of all children within our care. Therefore, we would appreciate parent's co-operation in ensuring all children who are ill be kept away from the childminding setting.

- We are happy to care for children with minor coughs and colds but will not care for children who are unwell, infectious or running a high temperature (i.e. 38°C or above is considered to be a fever).

If your child has a temperature of 38°C or above and has more than one dose of a temperature reducing medication (e.g. Calpol), they cannot return to the setting until 24 hours after their temperature returns to normal with no medicine (The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) guidance).

Where a child develops a temperature over 38.0°C whilst in our care we will take the following steps: -

1. Inform you and ask if we can administer a temperature reducing medication (e.g. Calpol).
2. We will administer one dose of a temperature reducing medication (e.g. Calpol) and monitor the child. If the temperature remains high and/or the child is not well enough to participate in play/activities or requires extra staff care, we will contact you and ask for the child to be collected. The child will not be permitted to return until they are 24 hours fever-free without medication.

Note, if a second dose is required (i.e. either on the same day or the next day) you will be contacted to collect them, and they cannot return until they are well and 24 hours fever-free without medication.

- If you have administered any temperature reducing medicines within 2 hours before arrival at the setting (unless administered for teething), please consider the implications of transmitting infections to others in the setting and keep your child your home until they are well.

Note, temperature reducing medications (e.g. Calpol) can mask symptoms making a child feel better temporarily, but it does not cure the underlying illness.

- If a child arrives to the setting and a member of staff believes that the child is infectious or poses a risk to the other children in the setting, then the parent/carer will be asked to take them home until they are well.
- Refunds will not be given to any absence owing to injury or illness.
- If your child has had diarrhoea and/or vomited, they cannot return for 48 hours after the last bout. In such cases, please call and let us know.

We hold a list of exclusion periods (published by UKHSA) that we would be happy to share with parents/carers on request.

In the event your child develops diarrhoea/vomiting whilst in our care we will contact you and ask you to pick them up and they cannot return for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea and/or vomiting.

- To ensure the health and well-being of all children in our care we would encourage parents with children with an infectious disease to keep them from the setting for the recommended exclusion period as set out by The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA).
- Each time your child is prescribed a new prescription for antibiotics they will not be able to return to the setting until 24 hours after the first dose.
- We will obtain prior written permission from parents for medicine to be administered before any medication is given. Daily dosage will be noted, and medicine administered alongside a daily signature whilst we are required to administer the medication.
- If the administration of prescription medicine requires technical/medical knowledge, then we will attend training from a qualified health professional. The training should be specific to the child in question.
- Prescription medication will only be administered to the child if it has been prescribed by a doctor.
- Non-prescription medication such as pain and fever relief will only be administered with parents' previous written consent and only when there is a health reason to do so.
- We will never administer medicines containing aspirin to a child under the age of 16 unless they have been prescribed by a doctor.
- If we have a child in our care with long-term medical needs, then we will ensure that we have sufficient information about the child's medical condition and will work in partnership with parents to assist the administration of any prescribed medication.

## **Staff Illness**

- If a member of staff is ill. The owner will attempt to get cover (via childminder agency, bank staff) and will only contact parents if we are in breach of our regulatory requirements.