



Illness Policy

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Last reviewed on:	[Date]
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Next review due by:	[Date]
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1. Overview

It is essential that all the children in our care are happy and healthy and that we reduce the possible risk of the spread of contagious illness. Though we are happy to care for children with minor snuffles and colds, we believe that the best place for a really poorly child is at home. In addition, children who are unwell would not, understandably, be able to engage in the activities.

2. Procedure if your child is ill

- If a child has suffered sickness and/or diarrhoea **within the last 48 hours, s/he should be kept at home** to avoid the risk of spreading infection. Your child should not return to The Quay within 48 hours of the most recent incident of sickness diarrhoea. Parents/carers are required to inform the setting as soon as possible.
- If a child becomes ill whilst in our care, we will care for and comfort them and, should it be necessary, isolate them as much as possible from the other children. Parents/carers will be contacted immediately, so that the child can be collected as soon as possible.
- On a rare occasion where key staff are ill and it is deemed unsafe to cater for learners, we may have to close The Quay or offer a limited service. In such a case parents/carers will be contacted at the earliest opportunity.

3. How long should you keep your child at home?

- Chickenpox - at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
- Diarrhoea and Vomiting - 48 hours after their last episode
- Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19) - they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
- Impetigo - their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
- Measles - 4 days after the rash first appeared
- Mumps - 5 days after the swelling started
- Scabies - they've had their first treatment
- Scarlet Fever - 24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
- Whooping Cough 48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

4. Illnesses that do not require you to keep your child at home

- Hand, foot and mouth
- Glandular fever

- Tonsillitis
- Threadworms
- Slapped cheek

It is nevertheless essential that you inform The Quay if your child is suffering from any of the above.

5. Staff Procedure

- If you have suffered sickness and/or diarrhoea, you should not attend work for at least 48 hours.
- If you know that you will not be attending work, please let Joint Directors or Lead Tutor know as soon as possible (ideally by direct phone call), as this will enable us to gauge staffing needs.