



## **Children's Sickness Policy and Procedures**

At Horfield Welly Pre-School we aim to provide a healthy and safe environment for all children, therefore we cannot accept any child who is unwell or who has a serious infectious illness.

### **Control of illness**

There may be occasions when a child is not so ill as to require medical care but nevertheless to attend pre-school would be unsuitable. If a child arrives at the setting and the Pre-School Manager does not consider him/her well enough to attend, the parent/carers will be advised accordingly. We will make every effort to stop the spread of infection within the setting but can only do this with the cooperation of parent/carers.

Here is a list of the most common childhood ailments that are infectious and we have included the recommended exclusion period.

- Coughs, colds and sore throats – we appreciate that children often pick up cold viruses without being ill and accept they do not need to stay away from the setting, however, if they have a raised temperature, continued cough, or are unable to eat, then exclusion will be necessary.
- Any child with sickness or diarrhoea must be kept away from the setting for at least 48 hours after the last episode of sickness and / or diarrhoea
- Temperatures – any child with a raised temperature, even if not accompanied by any other symptoms, should be kept away for at least 24 hours.

### **Illness - action for staff**

- If a child becomes unwell during a session, make them comfortable in a quiet place and keep under observation, noting any changes in condition. Very sick children will not be left unattended. If there is a danger of vomiting, give a bowl or bucket.
- If a child vomits or has diarrhoea at pre-school staff will isolate the fluids from other children, comfort the child as appropriate and call for help from another staff member. This other staff member will need to bring plastic aprons, gloves, disposable detox and cleaning cloths and a bag. One member of staff will deal with

the child, the other will clean the area and dispose of fluids appropriately. Parents will be contacted immediately and the child will be kept away from other children until the parents arrive. Staff will thoroughly clean themselves with antibacterial wash and dispose of gloves and aprons in a bag straight into the bin before returning to normal duties.

- Contact the child's parent/carer and give them precise details of the child's condition. Discuss with them the best course of action, eg. to collect the child.
- Ask the parent/carer to keep them at home until s/he has recovered.
- If a parent/carer says that their child has been unwell but now seems to have recovered, ask for exact details, remind them that our policy is to ask them not to send a child to the setting for 48 hours after the final episode.

### **Ongoing medical needs**

For chronic illnesses e.g. Asthma or children with special medical needs, we will administer, as necessary, any medication. A record will be made of the time and parents will be asked to acknowledge this with their signature. This will be in accordance with the setting's Medication Policy.

### **Serious illness**

If a child should suddenly become seriously ill during the duration of the group, we will immediately seek medical attention. The setting will follow its **Serious Accident and Emergency Procedure in the Health and Safety Policy**.

### **Ofsted**

We will notify Ofsted of any serious illnesses. We will do this within 14 days and understand that Ofsted may take action against us if we don't. We will use the following form to notify them.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/report-a-serious-childcare-incident>

### **Public Health England**

We will also notify the local **Public Health England** (aka HPT) office:  
Avon, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire HPT (Health Protection Team)  
Public Health England South West  
2 Rivergate  
Redcliffe  
Bristol BS1 6EH  
T: 0300 303 8162

### **Current List of Notifiable Diseases -**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/notifiable-diseases-and-causative-organisms-how-to-report#list-of-notifiable-diseases>