



Broomley Pre-School
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Registered Charity No. 1069127

Sick Child Policy

Policy statement

At Broomley pre-school we feel that children only enjoy learning if they feel well in themselves.

We need your help to keep our children well and healthy and to prevent the spread of illness in pre-school. When your child is unwell, it may be difficult for you to take the time off work or to organise alternative care for your ill child. However, our aim is to:

- a) provide a healthy environment free of illness and infectious diseases.
- b) prevent the spread of any illness or infectious diseases
- c) ensure children can thrive and enjoy their time at pre-school.

Children who are considered to be sick while at pre-school will be sent home; a staff member will call the parents/guardians and ask them to collect their child, or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.

Please make sure that you are reachable throughout the day. We will initially call Parent 1, if there is no reply, we will contact Parent 2, if again there is no answer, we will call your emergency contact.

If a child needs Paracetamol to keep their temperature down in the morning, or to reduce pain, they are usually too poorly to attend pre-school. This may mask illnesses or a temperature in the morning, but by lunch time the medication has worn off and symptoms show. This has then put other children and staff at risk of infection.

Children should not be given calpol/paracetamol/ibuprofen in the 12-hour period before attending pre-school.

At least one member of staff on duty will be First Aid trained, although we do ensure that all permanent staff undergoes first aid training which is kept up to date.

Procedures

- Parents are asked to keep their children at home if they are clearly unwell or have any infection. Please inform the Pre-school as to the nature of the infection so that we are able to alert other parents and make careful observations of any child who appears unwell.
- We reserve the right to refuse admission to pre-school if we feel a child is not well enough to attend or has a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep the child home for at least 24 hours to ensure there are no side effects.
- If a child becomes unwell during the session, we will contact the parent or the nominated person, from the information given on your registration form and will ensure that your child is kept comfortable until somebody comes to collect them.
- Medicines – we need written, parental permission for any medicines to be administered to a child during a session. A medicine record is in place and will be signed by the member of staff and parent/guardian at the end of a session to confirm the dose and time (see our 'Medication' Policy for more information)
- If a child has a high temperature, 38*c or above, we will try to keep them cool, away from any draughts and will contact the parent/carer to come and collect their child. Temperatures are taken using an infrared thermometer which is kept in the First Aid Box.
- If a child's temperature continues to rise, we will contact the parent for permission to administer the recommended dose of liquid paracetamol. They will be asked if the child has been given any other medication that day and the time it was administered at home. The child will then need to be collected as soon as possible. We ask that the child stays at home for the next 24 hours and until they are feeling well.
- Calpol will not be administered to a child unless prescribed by a doctor, or for emergency care.
- In extreme cases of emergency, the child will be taken to hospital and the parent Informed
- If the children of Pre-school staff are unwell, the children will not accompany their parents/carers to work in the Pre-school.

- We have a list of 'excludable' diseases and exclusion times which you can view here:

https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf

- The Pre-School will follow current Government advice during epidemic and/or pandemic illness, and will make such advice available to parents.
- A fully stocked First Aid Box is available within pre-school. A smaller first aid kit is also available for outings

As with any virus, cold or illness, children should be kept home until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.

Covid 19.

- If your child is displaying any symptoms of Covid 19 and are feeling unwell, please keep them at home.

If you test your child and they have a positive test result for COVID-19, they should not attend the setting for 3 days after the day of the test.

Staff in the setting who test positive will not attend the setting for 5 days.

Sickness and/or Diarrhoea

- Children should remain at home for at least 48 hours after an episode of sickness and/or diarrhoea and we would appreciate knowing if a child is off for this reason.

Chicken pox

- Children should not return to pre-school until all the spots have dried over. If you feel there may be a chance that your child has chicken pox before the spots appear, please keep your child at home and inform Pre-school.

Skin Infections

- When a child has been diagnosed with a skin infection, such as ringworm, scabies, impetigo etc, parents will be asked to keep their child at home until treatment has been started. It should not be necessary to exclude the child as long as treatment is underway and the affected area is covered, unless the case is severe.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis

- Hygiene precautions for viruses transmitted through bodily fluids are the same for all children and adults
- Single use vinyl gloves are used when changing pants or clothing soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit

- Soiled clothing is bagged for parents to collect
- Spills of bodily fluids are cleared using mild disinfectant solution and mops, cloths used are disposed with clinical waste
- All furniture or toys affected are cleaned using a disinfectant

Nits and Head Lice

- If a case of head lice is identified, the parent will be informed and asked to treat the child and the rest of the family if they are also found to have head lice
- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition although in exceptional cases a parent may be asked to keep a child away until the infestation has been cleared

This policy was adopted at a committee meeting of

Broomley Pre School

Held on: April 2023

Date to be reviewed - April 2025

Signed on behalf of the management committee:

Name of signatory - Vanessa Hucklesby

Role of signatory - Chairperson