

Administration of Children's Medication and Sick Child Policy

Medication

At Southville Day Nursery we follow the guidelines below regarding medication:

- Prescribed medication may be administered. It must be in-date and prescribed for the current condition with original packaging.
- Children taking prescribed medication must be well enough to attend the setting. **The management reserves the right to make the final decision about children attending the setting if they appear to be unwell.**
- If antibiotics are prescribed to children we ask for a period of 24 hours before returning to nursery to give the antibiotics a chance to work and in case of an adverse reaction to the medicine. This applies even if the child has previously been prescribed this type of anti-biotic.
- If your child has a health reason to need medication such as Paracetamol or Calpol a GP or nurse should be able to prescribe this.
- No medication containing aspirin will be given to any child attending this setting, unless it has been prescribed by a health professional e.g. doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist.
- Children's prescribed drugs are stored in their original containers, in accordance with product and prescriber's instructions and are clearly labelled and are inaccessible to the children. All medication will be securely stored and out of reach of children in medicine cabinet or fridge.
- Children that are teething may be given teething powders or teething gel on the condition that they are in the original packaging so that staff can read the instructions.
- Parents/carers give prior written permission for the administration of medication. Stating the name of the child, name/s of parent(s), date the medication starts, the name of the medication and prescribing doctor, nurse, dentist or pharmacist, the dose and times, or how and when the medication is to be administered.
- We use the Medication record sheets to record any administration of medicine and record; time, date, dosage and the form is signed by both the staff member administering the medication and another staff member who will witness the administering of the medication and then the parent/carer on collection of the child.
- With long term medication administration, we will ask you to review your Child's registration form and health requirements to check details are correct when children attend the setting with prescribed medication.
- If there are any changes to dosage from the initial prescription (for example with an inhaler) this needs to be in writing from the child's Doctor, nurse or pharmacist.
- If the administration of prescribed medication requires medical or technical knowledge, necessary training is provided for at least 2 relevant members of staff by a health professional prior to the child attending the setting.

Sickness

All parents are shown this policy so that they are aware of our policy on the exclusion of ill or infectious children. This is also discussed with parents during the initial settling in visit to the setting. **We do not provide care for children, who are unwell, have a temperature, or sickness and diarrhoea, or who have an infectious disease. This is in line with the Health Protection Agency's 'Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and other Childcare Settings September 2014'.**

The setting adopts a 48-hour rule for sickness and/or diarrhoea. This means that babies, children and staff are sent home and cannot return to the setting until 48 hours after their last bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea. Young children's nappies will be individually monitored. If a baby is displaying obvious sickness and diarrhoea they will be sent home. However, loose nappies will be monitored

and after three loose nappies, parents will be notified and asked to take the baby home. For older children, with obvious sickness and diarrhoea, the parents/carers will be contacted and asked to collect them immediately.

It is the managements final decision on whether children can or cannot attend nursery due to illness including high temperatures. Whilst we work with and have the upmost respect for our local G.Ps the day to day management still have the final decision on children being able to attend nursery.

In the event of your child/children becoming ill whilst at the setting, the staff will follow the outlined procedure below:

- Manager/ deputy manager to be informed.
- Description of the symptoms/problem to be relayed to the appropriate staff.
- Manager / deputy manager to assess the child/ren and decide on appropriate action required.
- If the child is thought to have an infectious disease or is deemed too unwell to attend the setting, we will contact the child's parents/carers to ask them to collect the child.
- If the child's parent/carers are unavailable emergency contact numbers will then be used.
- While the child is deemed well enough to attend the setting, or is awaiting collection by his/her parents, the child will be offered fluids and supported in a quiet or rest area alongside staff member.

Children with headlice are not excluded, but must be treated to remedy the condition. Parents are notified if there is a case of headlice in the setting.

Children suffering from discharge from eyes i.e. conjunctivitis will not be excluded from the setting providing it has been effectively treated.

Parents and visitors are notified if there is an infectious disease, such as chicken pox on by a poster in the setting.

Good hygiene practice concerning the clearing of any spilled bodily fluids is carried out at all times and personal protective clothing (PPE) is used at all times (this is covered in the induction with all staff)

The Public Health England South Region (Tel 0300 303 8162) is notified of any infectious disease that a qualified medical person considers notifiable. (Infectious Disease (Notification) Act 1889)

We will notify other users of the setting if the child is discovered to have an infectious/contagious condition/illness respecting the privacy of the ill child/family

Advice parent/carer on the agreed time of return to the setting, taking into consideration the illness and required incubation periods.