



SICKNESS (COVID-19) POLICY

At My Sunshine Day Nursery & Pre-School we promote the good health of all children attending. To help keep children healthy and minimise infection, we do not expect children to attend Nursery if they are unwell. If a child is unwell it is in their best interest to be in a home environment with adults they know well rather than at Nursery with their peers.

Please find our Nursery Exclusion Policy at the end of this document.

In order to take appropriate action of children who become ill and to minimise the spread of infection we implement the following procedures:

- If a child becomes ill during the Nursery day, we contact their parent(s) and ask them to pick up their child as soon as possible. During this time we care for the child in a quiet, calm area with their key person, wherever possible.
- We follow the guidance given to us by Public Health England (formerly the Health Protection Agency) in Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and other Child Care Settings and advice from our local health protection unit on exclusion times for specific illnesses, e.g. sickness and diarrhoea, measles and chicken pox, to protect other children in the Nursery.
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as sickness and diarrhoea, they must not return to Nursery until they have been clear for at least 48 hours.
- We notify Ofsted as soon as possible and in all cases within 14 days of the incident where we have any child or staff member with food poisoning.
- We inform all parents if there is a contagious infection identified in the Nursery, to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness. We thoroughly clean and sterilise all equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child to reduce the spread of infection.
- We exclude all children on antibiotics for the first 24 hours of the course (unless this is part of an ongoing care plan to treat individual medical conditions e.g. asthma and the child is not unwell).

This is because it is important that children are not subjected to the rigours of the Nursery day, which requires socialising with other children and being part of a group setting, when they have first become ill and require a course of antibiotics.

- We have the right to refuse admission to a child who is unwell regardless of whether they have a high temperature. This decision will be taken by the manager on duty and is non-negotiable.
- We make information about head lice readily available and all parents are requested to regularly check their children's hair. If a parent finds that their child has head lice we would be grateful if they could inform the Nursery so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair.



Coronavirus Guidelines

Please refer to our Coronavirus (Covid-19) Policy for full guidance. The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back and a reading of 37.8°C or higher
- **new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Children with symptoms must not attend Nursery under any circumstances. This includes, but is not limited to, cold symptoms, or the need for Calpol (or similar) to control a temperature. You must inform the Nursery manager if your child is absent due to Covid-19 symptoms. Adults with Covid-19 symptoms should not enter the Nursery at any time.

If any child becomes unwell at Nursery with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature (37.8°C) they must be sent home and advised to follow the stay at home guidance.

“Where the child, young person, or staff member tests positive, the rest of their class or group within their childcare or education setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The other household members of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child, young person, or staff member they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms”

A child who displays any of these symptoms should remain off Nursery for 7 days, or they may return earlier if they are tested and the result is negative.

Meningitis procedure

If a parent informs the Nursery that their child has meningitis, the Nursery manager will contact the Infection Control (IC) Nurse for their area. The IC Nurse will give guidance and support in each individual case. If parents do not inform the Nursery, we will be contacted directly by the IC Nurse and the appropriate support will be given.

We will follow all guidance given and notify any of the appropriate authorities including Ofsted if necessary.

Transporting children to hospital procedure

The Nursery manager/staff member must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the sickness is severe.
- DO NOT attempt to transport the sick child in your own vehicle.



- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, contact the parent(s) and arrange to meet them at the hospital.
- Redeploy staff if necessary to ensure there is adequate staff deployment to care for the remaining children. This may mean temporarily grouping the children together.
- Arrange for the most appropriate member of staff to accompany the child taking with them any relevant information such as registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter.
- Inform a member of the management team immediately.
- Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support following the accident.

This Policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of My Sunshine Day Nursery by Harriet Ballardie (Nursery Manager)	Date Policy was Disseminated to Staff	Date for next Policy review
25 May 2020		25 May 2020	25 May 2021



MSDN: Exclusion Table

Our practitioners are not medically trained in sickness and illnesses and when your child is poorly we advise to ensure you contact your GP for further advice.

Our exclusion periods are based on advice from NHS Direct, Public Health and our experience on how best to maintain the cross contamination to others.

We understand that you have to work and you need the childcare arrangements, however please understand that we have to consider all children's and staff's wellbeing within the Nursery.

Please note:

- That for any antibiotics that have been prescribed the first dose **must** be given at home and if the child has not had these antibiotics previously they then need to remain at home for 24 hours to ensure they have no allergic reactions to the medicine.
- Your child needs to be well enough to enjoy our daily activities

<u>Sickness/ Illness</u>	<u>What Nursery can do?</u>	<u>Exclusion period from Nursery</u>
Coronavirus (Covid-19) Symptoms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Temperature above 37.8°c • New, continuous cough • Loss / Change to sense of taste or smell 	1. Children with symptoms will be immediately isolated with a member of Staff in the Nursery office and the parents will be contacted to come to Nursery to collect their child.	7 Days (except if tested and test is negative)
Sickness and Diarrhoea	1. If your child is having watery stools we will give you a courtesy call. 2. On the 3 rd "loose" Nappy/ stool and we will ask you to collect your child from Nursery and keep him/her at home for 48 hours. (This is subject to teething. Some children do get slight diarrhoea when teething and we can have a discussion with you about this). 3. Vomiting: Following 1 single bout of sickness / vomiting we will make a courtesy call and discuss the level of sickness being experienced and whether we feel collection from Nursery is	For any sickness or diarrhoea, as per NHS guidelines, we ask for a 48 hour exclusion period from Nursery from the last bowel movement or vomiting.

	<p>needed.</p> <p>4. Should there be any further vomiting, we will call you and ask for you to collect your child immediately.</p>	
Conjunctivitis	<p>1. We will make a courtesy call to recommend that you arrange a GP appointment for an eye-drop prescription.</p> <p>2. Your child can return to Nursery once these eye-drops have been prescribed. Please note that we must have prescribed eye drops for children under 2.</p>	<u>No exclusion</u> with correct treatment.
Chickenpox	<p>1. We will make a courtesy call to advise you of what we think is a 'Chicken Pox Rash'.</p> <p>2. We will then continue to monitor this.</p> <p>3. If there is a significant increase in the rash we will contact you again to ask you to collect your child asap and, at the same time, will advise you to make a GP appointment to obtain confirmation of Chickenpox.</p> <p>4. We will then advise all parents that the Chickenpox virus has been detected at Nursery.</p>	The child needs to be absent from Nursery for 7 days and / until all spots are scabbed over.
German Measles (Rubella)	<p>1. We will make a courtesy call in regards to any visible rash and ask you to collect your child asap and, at the same time, advise that you should make a GP appointment for confirmation of the cause of the rash.</p>	Child must remain absent from Nursery for 4 days from the onset of the rash.
Scarlet Fever	<p>1. We will make a courtesy call to parents and suggest collection from Nursery and suggest an appointment is made to see your GP.</p>	Child can return to Nursery 24 hours after antibiotic treatment has been given.
Cold sores and Ringworm	<p>1. We will make a courtesy call to you and advise that a treatment is required from a pharmacy or GP.</p>	Treatment is required for ringworm and once treated the child



	2. We will continue to ensure that drinking bottles are not shared between children.	can return to Nursey.
Whooping Cough	1. We will make a courtesy call to the parents and advise that a GP appointment is made.	Child can return to Nursery 24 hours after antibiotic treatment is given or after 21 days if no antibiotic treatment is given.
Head lice	1. We will make a courtesy call for collection and suggest a treatment is sought from a pharmacy.	Child is able to return to Nursery the next day after treatment commenced.
Threadworm	1. We will make a courtesy call for collection and advise that a treatment from the pharmacy is required to be taken by the whole family.	The child can return to Nursery once the treatment has been administered for whole Family
Mumps	1. We will make a courtesy call for collection from Nursery asap and, at the same time, advise that a GP appointment is made.	Child can return to Nursery 5 days after the onset of any swelling.

QUESTIONS:

Please see Harriet or Danni with any questions relating to the above information.

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