

Sick Children Policy

Steps Ahead does not aim to exclude children from the nursery unnecessarily. **The decision of the Duty Manager in Charge or Deputy is final when requesting the exclusion of a child for illness or infection.** Decisions will take into account the needs of the child and of the group.

- Children should not attend the Nursery if they are clearly unwell, have a temperature or are distressed through illness.
- Children prescribed antibiotics to treat an infection should remain at home for at least 24-48 hours to support them with their recovery. Returning only when they are well enough to participate in a normal nursery day. Children who are regularly being prescribed antibiotics to deal with any ongoing medical problems may be allowed to attend during the first 24 hours at the discretion of the managers.
- When your child has an infectious disease or another illness, advice should be sought from the child's GP or Health Visitor. Appropriate exclusions will apply. The Nursery uses the NHS website for guidance. Please see attached list for exclusions guidelines.
- Should staff suspect that a child has an infectious or contagious disease, they will request that parents consult a doctor before the child returns to the nursery.
- Children who have suffered a bout of sickness and/or diarrhea must not return to the nursery until they have been symptom free for at least 48 hours.
- Child Medical Care Plan: The nursery will complete a medical care plan for a child with ongoing or suspected ongoing medical conditions to ensure the correct procedure for dealing with situations arising from these conditions are known and carried out. See attached form.
- If a child becomes ill at nursery, staff will inform parents or an emergency contact person. While awaiting their arrival, the staff will ensure the comfort of the child, taking appropriate action which would include seeking medical advice if necessary.
- Employees will report any concerns about a child's health to the management team. The parents of the sick child will be contacted immediately.
- In the case of infestations such as head lice, staff will inform parents of the problem and advise them how to proceed. Children will not be excluded, but they will need treatment.

- Parents are responsible for keeping the nursery informed about their child's health.
- **Steps Ahead Registered person or their representative will notify Ofsted of any serious accident, illness or injury to, or death of, any child while in their care, and of the action taken. Notification must be made as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any event within 14 days of the incident occurring.**
- **Steps Ahead will notify Ofsted of any incident that results in a child leaving the setting by ambulance whether the accident, illness or injury is deemed serious or not serious.**
- Steps Ahead Registered Person or their representative will notify Ofsted of any food poisoning affecting two or more children cared for on the premises. Notification must be made as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any event within 14 days of the incident
- Steps Ahead will ensure there is a first aid box accessible at all times with appropriate content for use with children. Steps Ahead will keep a record of accidents or injuries and first aid treatment and inform parents and/or carers of any accident or injury sustained by the child on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable, of any first aid treatment given.

Please note that absences due to sickness taken without due notice are not refundable and must be paid for.

Sick Children Policy

It is our policy to encourage and promote health for all the children in our care. This specifically includes monitoring the children for sign and symptoms of communicable diseases. To prevent the spread of infectious illness/diseases, children cannot attend during the following times when they have contracted any of the following diseases/infections:

- **Chicken Pox** Until the blisters have scabbed over approx. 7 days.
- **Conjunctivitis** You do not need to stay away from nursery if your child has conjunctivitis, unless your child is feeling particularly unwell. If there are a number of cases, you may be advised to keep your child away until their infection has cleared up.
- **Coronavirus** A temperature of 38oC or above. A new or continuous cough. A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.
- **Diarrhea/Sickness** 48 hours after the symptoms have cleared.
- **German Measles (Rubella)** 6 days from onset of rash.
- **Impetigo** Most people are no longer contagious after 48 hours of treatment, or once their sores have dried and healed.
- **Hand, Foot and Mouth** You should keep your child away from nursery while they are unwell.
- **Measles** at least 4 days from onset of rash.
- **Mumps** 5 days from onset of symptoms.
- **Scarlet Fever** Keep children away from the nursery until they have been on a course of antibiotics for at least 24 hours.
- **Whooping Cough** Stay away from nursery, school or work until 48 hours from the start of antibiotic treatment or three weeks after coughing bouts started (whichever is sooner)
- **High/Low Temp** Once temperature has stabilized for over 12 hrs.
- **Ear Infection** Until the child feels well.
- **Threadworm** Until treated.
- **Slapped Cheek Syndrome.** Until the child feels well and the temperature is stabilized.

- ***Meningitis*** Until the child feels well.
- ***Food Poisoning*** Until 48 hours free from symptoms.

For Further Information Please Also Refer To:

- NHS Web Site. Administration of Medicines Policy, Accident Policy, Allergy Policy.