

Egerton Nursery & out of School Club

Sickness and Illness Policy



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EYFS: 3.44, 3.45, 3.46

Document History

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Version	Date	Changes
2	25/06/2021	Refer to COVID-19 Policy
3	12/11/2021	None
4	22/06/2022	Name change from Sickness to Sickness & Illness.Changes in Covid 19 Guidance See highlighted
5	14/06/2023	See highlighted

List of Abbreviations Used

ENOOSC	Egerton Nursery and Out of School Club
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Sickness and Illness Policy

At Egerton Nursery and Out of School Club 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.

Our procedures

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 session/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 published by **UK Health Security Agency for managing specific infectious diseases**¹Public Health England (Health Protection in Schools and other childcare facilities) 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 setting
- 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 inform all parents if there is a contagious infection identified in the setting, 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 notify Ofsted as soon as is reasonably practical, but in any event within 14 days of the incident of any food poisoning affecting two or more children cared for on the premises We ask parents to keep children on antibiotics at home for the first 48 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 session/s, 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. This decision will be taken by the manager on duty and is non-negotiable
- We make information/posters 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 setting so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair.

Meningitis procedure

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has meningitis, the settings manager will contact the Local Area Infection Control (IC) Nurse. The IC Nurse will give guidance and support in each individual case. If parents do not inform the setting, we may be contacted directly by the IC Nurse and the appropriate support given. We will follow all guidance given and notify any of the appropriate authorities including Ofsted where necessary.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/managing-specific-infectious-diseases-a-to-z>

POLICY STATEMENT FOR DEALING WITH SICK CHILDREN

We will follow the transporting children to hospital procedure in any cases where children may need hospital treatment.

The manager/staff member must:

- Inform a member of the management team immediately
- Call 999 for an ambulance immediately if the illness is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the unwell child in your own vehicle
- Follow the instructions from the 999 call handler
- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, a member of staff must 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
- 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.

Aims:

- To safeguard the health of all staff members and children in our care.
- To ensure that all staff are alert to the early indications of illness.

Objectives:

- To ensure that all staff are able to deal with illnesses efficiently and safely.
- To establish a procedure for dealing with illness of all types.

Guidelines for staff members.

A list of infectious, notifiable and communicable diseases will be kept by the manager.

Any child who is feeling unwell should report it to a member of staff (ENOOSC).

Staff member or manager to assess situation and make decision on further action.

Arrangements for parent/carer to be contacted will be made and information passed on in a calm and factual manner.

A quiet place will be made for the unwell child to sit/lay and they will not be left unattended.

Arrangements will be made to minimise the risk of cross-infection if suspected.

All parents will be notified if there has been a suspected risk of cross-infection.

Effective Hand Washing Procedure-New

Guidelines for parents.

POLICY STATEMENT FOR DEALING WITH SICK CHILDREN

It is imperative that setting be informed of any infectious, notifiable or communicable disease at the earliest opportunity.

We will follow current Health Authority guidelines for re-admittance.
Parents must keep emergency contact numbers up to date at all times.

Covid19-Updated June 2022

Please see the link below for recent changes in guidance.
[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19)

If the child or staff member tests positive, the rest of their immediate group within their setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 3-5 days.

It is advised that anyone is unwell and has a high temperature should remain at home until they no longer have a temperature.

Please refer to the COVID-19 Policy

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
25.06.2021		June 2024