

# **Health and Sickness Policy**

Michelle Streeter - 2726829 Sandra Maynard - 2733094

## **Existing long-term conditions:**

Prior to commencing a childminding relationship, we will ask the child's parents/carers whether the child has a long-term medical condition that we should be aware of.

We will seek information from the child's parents/carers and other suitable sources concerning the management of the condition and will aim to work with the parents/carers to provide the most suitable care for the individual child.

We will try to accommodate all existing or newly developed long-term conditions, however if we feel we are unable to do so we will discuss the best route forward as soon as we realise this is the case.

## **Childminder Illness:**

We know that as a parent, you require childcare that is reliable. We will endeavour to work on all our contracted days. We are happy to work with mild illness such as a cold, however we will not work if we have sickness or diarrhoea or any other highly infectious infection. In the event of our illness all parents will be contacted as soon as is possible to inform them. If we are unable to work because of illness, then no fee will be payable for the sessions affected. If our children are ill, we shall follow the same protocol – informing parents as soon as is possible. Should we be unable to work because of our child's illness, then no fee will be payable for the sessions affected.

### **Child Illness:**

Parents should inform me of any illness or ailment that their child has, whether it may affect other children I care for or not. If the child is unwell alternative caring arrangements for the



child should be made unless the illness is a cough or cold or unless agreed otherwise at the time.

If a child becomes sick whilst in our care, we will endeavour to contact the parent and discuss the best course of action, which might be for the parent (or agreed alternative) to pick the child up early.

For the wellbeing of other children in our care, as well as for the unwell child, the child cannot return to our setting until they are well. On occasions we may insist on the child visiting their local GP prior to them being allowed to return.

We are unable to care for an ill child whilst taking care of other children. Usual fees are payable for any sessions not attended due to a child being ill.

If a child has been sick or has diarrhoea, in normal circumstances the child cannot return to the setting until they have been clear for 48 hours.

In accordance with the Children Act regulations, we will notify Ofsted of any notifiable diseases as defined by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA). Ofsted will also be notified if two or more children are affected by food poisoning or if any child has a serious disease. Notification must be made as soon as is reasonably practicable, but in any event within 14 days of the incident occurring.

#### **Antibiotics**

Children who have been prescribed antibiotics will not be admitted to the setting for 24 hours from the start of their treatment. This is to avoid any cross infection and for the well-being of administer the medication. All medication must be in the original canister with its prescriptive label on containing the child's details and directions for administration on it.

# **Calpol**

If your child is unable to get through the day without the need for Calpol or any paracetamol product, then we require them to stay home. Until they are 24 hours clear of medication.



## **Medicines**

No medicines can be administered without prior agreement with staff and written consent from a parent.

Consent to administer non-prescription medication will be sought as part of the contract/permission forms.

Consent for prescription medications will be sought prior to administration of the medication, on an as and when required basis.

Consent for long term medication will be obtained at the start of the medication being required.

In all cases, if we administer medication to your child, we will require you to sign for each dose administered, so that you acknowledge that the medication has been given.

All medications must be provided in the original packaging. If it is a prescription medicine, it must be in the original packaging, with the label attached showing the child's name, dosage and any other relevant information. Any medication not provided in this way will not be administered.

All medication will be stored as per the instructions on the medication itself.

# **Infectious Diseases and Illness:**

In the event of your child suffering from one of the following illnesses, please be aware that your child will need to stay away from the childminding environment for at least the time stated below. I have taken guidance on these timescales from the UKHSA. It is unfair to the other children in my setting and myself if you knowingly allow your child to attend whilst suffering from any of the listed illness. I may from time to time insist on a different exclusion time to the suggested, and this decision will always be made with the best interests of the children.



Illness Time away from setting

**Chicken pox** At least 5 days from the onset of the rash/until all spots have

scabbed over.

Monkey pox Until all scabs have fallen off and there is intact skin underneath

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/monkeypox
https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/monkeypox/

German Measles (Rubella) 5 days from the onset of the rash

**Hand foot & mouth** 48hrs after fever has gone and all mouth ulcers and lesions

have healed

Impetigo Until the lesions have crusted and healed or 48 hours after

commencing antibiotics

**Covid-19 (Corona Virus)** Children and young people should not attend if they have a

high temperature and are unwell

Children and young people who have a positive test result for COVID-19 should not attend the setting for 3 days after the

day of the test.

Measles 4 days from onset of rash

Molluscum contagiosum None

**Ringworm** Exclusion not normally required but treatment will be needed

**Scabies** Child can return after first treatment

Scarlet fever Child can return 48 hours after starting antibiotics

**Diarrhoea & Vomiting** 48 hours from last episode

Flu (influenza) Until recovered and 48hrs clear of fever

**Whooping cough** 48hours after starting antibiotics or 21 days after onset of

illness if no antibiotic treatment.

**Conjunctivitis** 24hrs after treatment started or it's cleared up with no treatment

**Tuberculosis** Until at least 2 weeks after the start of effective antibiotic

treatment (if pulmonary TB

Exclusion not required for non-pulmonary or

latent TB infection



Always consult your local HPT before disseminating

information to staff, parents and carers Exclusion always necessary, consult GP

**Diphtheria** Exclusion always necessary, consult G

**Mumps** 5 days after onset of swelling

Tonsilitis Until child is well and no temperature is present

Head lice No exclusion but treatment required before returning

**Slapped Cheek** No exclusion once rash has developed, child must be well with no temp

**Temperature** Until temperature subsides and 24 hours clear of Calpol

For any other illnesses please consult your GP or refer to the UKHSA website.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/exclusion-table

If you think your child is unwell, for any reason, and will struggle to cope with the busy day, please keep your child at home. It is unfair to expect them to keep up with the busy pace of the day.

Please also remember that should you send your child in, knowing they are unwell, and not meant to be in according to this policy, your child may infect ourselves or members of our family, causing us to close, which in turn causes inconvenience to all the families using our service.

We retain the right to send a child home if that child is unwell.

Further information:

www.hps.org.uk www.nhs.uk