

Illness Policy

It is the policy of the setting to encourage and promote good health and hygiene of all the children attending. This includes the monitoring of children for signs and symptoms of communicable diseases such as Chicken Pox, Mumps, Meningitis, Rubella (German Measles), Measles, Hepatitis, diarrhoea, vomiting and temperatures of 101 Fahrenheit or 38 Centigrade.

When a child becomes ill it is the policy of the setting to exclude them as soon as is practicable to reduce the possibility of cross-infection. If it is the opinion of the senior staff that a child is ill then the parent/carer will be contacted and asked to come and collect them as soon as possible. The time of the exclusion will vary with the cause and the following guidelines have been laid down. It must, however, be recognised that each case must be considered individually and severity of symptoms may be an influencing factor.

<i>Disease/Illness</i>	<i>Minimum Exclusion Period</i>
Conjunctivitis	24 hours from start of antibiotics
Unknown Temperature	24 hrs - a complete day away
Vomiting - dependant on severity	36-48 hours after last bout
Diarrhoea - dependant on severity	36-48 hours after last bout
Chickenpox	7 days from appearance of rash or until scabbed over
Gastro-enteritis, food poisoning	Until authorised by Community Health
Infective Hepatitis	7 days from onset of jaundice
Measles	7 days from appearance of rash
Meningococcal infection	Until fully recovered
Mumps	Until the swelling has subsided but a minimum of 7 days from onset
Pertusis (Whooping Cough)	21 days from onset of Paroxysmal cough
Polioyelitis	Until declared free from infection by Community Health
Rubella (German Measles)	4 days from appearance of the rash
Scarlet Fever & streptococcal infection of the throat	Until appropriate medical treatment has been given and in no case for less than 3 days from the start of treatment
Tuberculosis	Until declared free from infection by Community Health
Typhoid Fever	Until declared free from infection by Community Health
Impetigo	Until the skin is healed
Pediculosis (lice)	Until appropriate treatment has been given
Plantar warts	No exclusion. Should be treated and covered
Ringworm of scalp	Until cured
Ringworm of body	Seldom necessary to exclude provided treatment is being given
Scabies	Need not be excluded once appropriate treatment has been given and the area can be covered

This list is not exhaustive and other illnesses may occur from time to time. Consultation with a senior member of staff should be undertaken for all children. There is further information in each nursery on signs, symptoms and exclusion periods for a range of illnesses.

