



Holland Park Pre-Prep & Nursery

Sickness & Illness Policy and Procedure

HPPN does not aim to exclude children unnecessarily. Whilst we recognise the difficulties involved for working parents in making alternative care arrangements for their children if they are ill, the setting will always put the interests and needs of the children in the nursery first.

If a child appears unwell during the day and either has a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach, the parents or nominated carer will be asked to collect the child and be asked to keep them at home until they are better. If the decision is made that your child needs to be sent home due to illness, HPPN staff will use the contact details in the order given to them.

If we detect that a child is unwell and is running a temperature, we will use a thermometer to take their temperature. Each classroom has their own thermometer. If a child does have a temperature exceeding 38C, then the parents will be notified.

In line with NHS guidelines if we do recognise that a child does have a temperature we will:

- give them plenty of fluids;
- look out for signs of dehydration;
- give them food if they want it;
- stay alongside them, giving them comfort;
- call their parents;
- administer Calpol: If the child has a temperature of 38C or higher, the child appears distressed and unwell, and the parent has given consent. Even if signed consent has been obtained, the parent will be called before it is administered. A record of this will be documented on a medicine form and the parent will be asked to sign the form when they collect their child from nursery. Only one dose of Calpol will be administered at nursery; and
- seek medical attention straight away if we think that the child is in danger.

If we recognise that a child has a temperature we will not:

- undress the child or sponge them down to cool them – fever is a natural and healthy response to infection;
- cover them up in too many clothes; and
- administer Calpol if the parents have not given consent unless we think that the child is at risk of convulsion, or if we have been given medical advice to do so. The parent will be called before it is administered. A record of this will be documented on a medicine form and the parent will be asked to sign the form when they collect their child from nursery.

In extreme cases of emergency, the child will be taken to the nearest hospital and the parents informed. We have the permission from all parents to take their child to hospital in an emergency; this is kept in each child's file.



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If children arrive at nursery with a temperature exceeding 38 C, they will be asked to be removed immediately and taken back home by their parents. If a child has had a temperature the day before, the child must be excluded for 24 hours.

The decision of the Manager is final when requesting the exclusion of a child for illness or infection. Decisions will consider the needs of the child and those of the group.

Parents are asked to keep their children at home if they are experiencing any symptoms and to inform the setting of any infectious illnesses.

Following the advice given by Public Health England on exclusion periods for infectious illnesses and applying it to nursery policy the nursery has different incubation periods for illnesses:

Condition	Recommended period to stay away from nursery
Sickness	48 hours after last bout.
Diarrhoea	48 hours after last bout.
Hand foot and mouth	Until spots and ulcers have gone away.
Chicken pox	Until all spots have scabbed over.
Ringworm	Once the all clear has been given by the doctor.
Measles	Once the all clear has been given by the doctor.
Scarlet Fever	After 24 hours providing the appropriate antibiotic treatment has been given and the child has been on this for a full 24 hours.
Flu	Child should stay at home until they are well enough to attend nursery. Children need to be free from symptoms.
Cough and cold	Child should stay at home until they are well enough to attend nursery.
High temperature	The child must not be running a high temperature for 24 hours, unless it is recognised that the temperature is not because the child is unwell, but the high temperature is due to teething. This is at the discretion of the Manager.
Conjunctivitis	Until eye has completely cleared.

The NHS provides further information and we will refer to this guidance for further assistance.

Ofsted should be notified of any food poisoning affecting two or more children looked after on the premises, any child having meningitis or the outbreak on the



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premises of any notifiable disease identified as such. We will notify Ofsted of any serious illness of a child.

Administration of medicines and the emergency use of Calpol:

We will only give medication that is prescribed by a doctor. If your child has been prescribed a course of antibiotics, we ask that they remain at home for the first 48 hours. This is to ensure that the medication has had ample time to take effect and the child will feel more like themselves and be able to enjoy their day at the setting. Medications containing aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid) should not be given to any child under the age of 16 unless prescribed by a doctor. HPPN will endeavour to administer prescribed medication at the correct dosage time. However, if it is crucial for the child's welfare, then parents should either keep the child at home or return to administer the medication themselves.

Under normal circumstances it is the policy of HPPN not to administer unprescribed medication which could mask symptoms such as a fever. However, should a child develop a fever whilst in our care the parents or nominated person will be contacted and informed of the child's illness and the requirement for Calpol, and arrangements for the child's collection will be made. If the parent or nominated person is unable to collect straight away. If permission has been given by the parent, the Team Leader will administer a dose of Calpol to reduce the temperature. The parent will still be expected to make collection arrangements as soon as possible and staff may recommend that they consult a doctor.

Should the temperature not reduce, or parents have serious delay in collecting the child, NHS 111 will be consulted on whether an ambulance should be called. The child will not be allowed back into the nursery until all symptoms have been recovered from.

Date reviewed: September 2021
By: Danny Webb
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