



Sick Child Policy.

Links with Exford C of E First School: Health & Safety Policy, First Aid Procedure

Young children who begin mixing in a large group are highly likely to catch and have a variety of symptoms and illnesses. We appreciate that many parents need to be able to go to work, however if children are unwell then they will be cared for better in their own home with a parent. We are happy to care for children with minor coughs and colds but **will not care for children who are unwell, infectious or running a high temperature.** By making alternative arrangements for your child and keeping them away from the setting we can minimise the risk of infection to other children and adults and contain the illness. Parents are requested to notify the preschool if their child is not attending the setting due to illness.

In the event of your child becoming ill whilst at preschool the staff will abide by the following guidelines.

- Key worker informs the Early Years Lead Practitioner or Head of Teaching and Learning
- Description of symptoms / problem relayed to the Early Years Lead Practitioner
- Both assess the child and decide what action is to be taken, this could be contacting parent/carer or the emergency services
- Parents/carers will always be contacted and informed if their child has a high temperature of 101F/38C or above.
- Staff **must** follow Ofsted guidance 'Giving medication to children in registered childcare.

If child needs to go home immediately the following action is taken:

- Parent/carer or emergency contact notified.
- Staff ensure the child is comfortable, encourage rest and fluids and move to a quiet/private area (the family room can be used if available).
- Dress/undress child as appropriate.
- Comfort/reassure the child as necessary
- Ensure adult collecting child is given information regarding the child's symptoms.
- If contact cannot be made with Parent/carer the Early Years Lead Practitioner/Early Years Assistant will contact Dulverton Medical Centre for advice.

If the child is not in need of immediate collection:

- Key worker keeps a close watch on child's condition and initiates monitoring form (see attached).

- Key worker checks child's temperature every 10 minutes and records any further symptoms on form.
- If condition deteriorates or shows no sign of improvement Key worker reviews the situation with the Early Years Lead Practitioner and/or Head of Teaching and Learning and a decision is reached as to whether the child should go home.

The Early Years Lead Practitioner or Early Years Assistant will always make a decision based on the correct action for everyone in the setting.

If a child has **sickness or diarrhoea**, parents/carers **must** keep their children at home for at least 48 hours after all the symptoms have cleared.

Staff retain the right to refuse to receive children at the preschool if they have reasonable cause to believe that they are unwell.

Parents/carers are asked to be considerate when returning children to preschool following a notifiable infectious disease such as chicken pox or mumps and that the recommended isolation period is complete.

If a child attending has got or had a notifiable disease (see list in operational plan) we inform all parents by telephone, letter/e-mail or a notice on the door. We also report this to the Health Protection Agency and act on the advice they give us. We then record this information in the operational plan which is located in the office.

Reviewed and adopted: August 2015

Signed

Date

Role

<u>Preschool Team</u>		
Name	Signature	Date
Early Years Assistant		
Early Years Assistant		
Early Years Assistant Lead Practitioner		