



## Sickness and Illness

At **Little Stars day care** we promote the good health of all children attending. To help keep children healthy and minimise infection, we expect children to stay at home 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 day care with their peers.

- We ask that staff and visitors do not attend the nursery unwell.
- We provide healthy meals and snacks
- We provide areas of rest and sleep and working with families to promote good sleep levels at home

Please see recommended periods for children to be kept at home for some common childhood illness. If your child has an infectious illness, it is important to let the daycare know as soon as possible so that we can inform other families of signs/symptoms to look out for.

<b>Illness</b>	<b>Recommended period for the child to be at home</b>
<b>Vomiting</b>	Child must be 48 hrs free from vomiting
<b>Measles</b>	Two weeks
<b>Diarrhoea</b>	48 hrs free from diarrhoea. If a child has 3 consecutive loose stools the parent will be asked to collect them. If it is teething related a doctor's note may be requested at the manager's discretion.
<b>Infectious Conjunctivitis</b>	Soreness and discharge from the eye. Until treatment results in no discharge.
<b>Allergic Conjunctivitis</b>	Eye, itchy and red, no discharge. Until treatment has started.
<b>Chicken pox</b>	Once the scabs have dried.
<b>Hand Foot and mouth</b>	3-5 days from date of discharge
<b>Broken bones</b>	Following risk assessment and care plan
<b>Head Lice</b>	Once treatment is completed
<b>Ringworm</b>	Once treatment is applied
<b>Asthma - request to use an asthma pump.</b>	Care plan must be in place before the child is left



<b>Severe allergies</b>	Care plan must be in place before the child starts or is left at Daycare
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## 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 day care 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, (wearing PPE) wherever possible
- We follow the guidance published by Public Health England (Health Protection in Schools and other childcare facilities) and advice from our local health protection unit on exclusion times for specific illnesses, for example, sickness and diarrhoea, measles and chickenpox, to protect other children in the day care
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as sickness and diarrhoea, they must not return to daycare until they have been clear for at least 48 hours
- We inform all parents if there is a contagious infection identified in the daycare, 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 day care day, 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 day care so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair.

## Meningitis procedure



If a parent informs the day care that their child has meningitis, the day care 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 day care, 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.



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

**The day care 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.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the day care	Date for review
15/07/21  Reviewed:19/06/23	Head teacher    Lisle Von Buchenroder Board of Governors  	01/07/24