 Whiteley Preschool Sick Children Policy

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the Medication Policy and Procedure and the Safeguarding Children and Child Protection Policy.

In the event of a child being obviously unwell, he/she must not be sent into preschool. We take our duty to prevent the spread of infection very seriously, therefore, insist on high standards of personal hygiene and practice; particularly hand washing and maintaining a clean environment.

To prevent the spread of sickness, children will be excluded from attending preschool when suffering from infectious diseases such as Chicken Pox, diarrhoea and vomiting, and contagious skin conditions, e.g. Impetigo, Scabies etc.

The following table shows the recommended period of exclusion (taken from the HPA guidance):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Illness / infection** | **Recommended period of exclusion** |
| Diarrhoea and vomiting | 48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea and vomiting |
| Chicken pox | 5 days from onset of rash/spots have scabbed over and dried |
| Impetigo | Until lesions are crusted or healed |
| Conjunctivitis | None although, we recommend that medical advice is sought as it is highly contagious |
| Scabies | Child can return after first treatment |
| Coronavirus (symptomatic/positive) | 10 days (14 days if a confirmed case in the household or support bubble) |

For a full list please see the guidance poster within the main hall (above the Foxes tent).

Parents must regularly check their child for Head Lice and treat accordingly.

Children must not be returned to preschool immediately after their immunisation injections, as occasionally they may suffer reactions to the injections.

If a child develops either a high fever or a new or persistent cough parents/carer will be contacted immediately and asked to collect their child as a matter of urgency. The child will be moved to the Yew Tree Room where a member of staff will wait for the parent to collect them. This child will not be allowed to return to preschool until a negative test result has been obtained. In the case of the child testing positive guidance from Public Health England will be followed. Please see protocols for dealing with a positive diagnosis. We ask staff who display symptoms to be tested as a matter of urgency and inform Gemma Hardy of the outcome of the test. If the test is negative the staff member can return to work as soon as they feel well enough to do so.

Any staff member that has been in contact with a child that has been taken home due to displaying symptoms should wash their hands for at least 20 seconds after caring for the child. All toys, surfaces, resources that the child has come in to contact with will be thoroughly disinfected including the isolating room. PPE will be worn by the staff member attending to the unwell child. Waste will be disposed of in accordance with the government guidance.

* Social distancing will be observed throughout the preschool where possible.
* Children will be supervised to wash their hands regularly, for at least 20 seconds.
* Staff should follow the hand washing guidelines.
* Any member of staff who develops the symptoms will leave the setting and follow the self-isolating guidelines.
* The setting will be thoroughly cleaned throughout the day and at the end of each day.
* Snack will be served to the children individually.
* Parents will be asked to stager drop off and collections and will not be allowed to enter the preschool rooms, they will be advised as to how this process will work. When it is essential for a parent to enter the preschool rooms, they will be asked to ear a mask or face covering.
* If a member of your household develops one or more of the symptoms, please follow the stay at home guidance and self-isolate as a family whilst awaiting your test results.

Whiteley Preschool will follow the guidance and instructions of the Government and Public Health England. At this time only children of classified key workers will be able to attend the setting.

PPE is available for staff but should only be used for toileting, changing nappies and spillages of bodily fluids, Face masks should only be worn where a member of staff is looking after a child who is displaying symptoms and the 2 metre distance cannot be kept.

**Medicines**

* Medicines may be administered in line with the Medication Policy and Procedure.
* Written Parental Medicine Agreement must be provided for all non-prescribed medicine in addition to the Medication Consent Form which must be completed and signed by the parent / carer for each medicine.

All medicines received must be clearly labelled, in date and with the child’s name. Once the child has received his/her medication the administrator will sign the form. The preschool Manager must be informed if a child has been seen by his/her G.P. or is receiving medication.

If a child becomes ill whilst at the preschool, every effort will be made to contact the parent/carer to discuss the child’s symptoms and arrange for the child to be collected. Accident / Illness Monitoring Sheets will then be completed until the parent/carer arrives. If the parent cannot be reached after a few attempts the emergency contact will be telephoned. **It is essential that contact numbers and emergency contacts are kept up to date.** If a child becomes ill during an outing, the parents / carers will be contacted as above with details of where their child is; to enable the child to be collected.

**In case of injury or sickness requiring medical attention:**

* Initially, first aid will be administered by a qualified first aider
* The parent/carer will be contacted, and further action agreed, e.g. parent may wish to collect child to take to their GP
* An ambulance will be called in an emergency
* All injuries from the neck upwards will be reported straight to the Manager or person in charge that day. Parents/emergency contacts will be contacted on the telephone if their child obtains an injury of this type; they can then decide to collect their child or not.

Policy adopted on: 11th July 2014

Policy reviewed on: 4th August 2020

Signed:…………………………………….Chairperson

For further information please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people>