



Infection Control Policy

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Approving Body	PPSD Committee
Signed	

The purpose of this policy is to help us ensure a safe and healthy environment for all children within our care. To reduce the risk of infections we:

- Ensure we are aware of the latest PHE Guidance relating to Infectious diseases
- Provide protective clothing and equipment for staff in accordance with company procedures.
- Have daily, weekly and monthly routine cleaning processes in place.
- Outside contract cleaners clean premises daily.
- If an outbreak occurs (e.g. Norovirus or Covid 19) a deep clean is completed in the appropriate area by contract cleaners.

It is a fact that children will get ill. By following the guidelines in this policy it reduces unnecessary exposure to illnesses and ensures infections are managed effectively creating a happy and healthy school for all.

What happens if my child is ill whilst in The Foundation Stage or elsewhere in school?

If your child becomes ill within school, his/her condition is brought to the attention of the room leader or class teacher.

A decision is then taken based upon the symptoms including any visible signs and the child's body temperature as to whether you are immediately informed or whether continued monitoring of the child should occur.

Should a child's condition deteriorate you will be contacted by a member of the team and actions will be agreed. This could include administering of medicines or collection of the child in more serious cases or if more acute symptoms are present (e.g. vomiting, diarrhoea or high temperature).

What happens if my child is ill at home?

Depending upon the symptoms you may have to consider excluding your child from the school or Foundation Unit in accordance with our guidelines later in this document.

Should your child be well enough to attend we require you to notify us of any illness that has occurred. This ensures our team is able to monitor your child for any signs of reoccurrence or for unusual child behavior. This will also ensure any symptoms of infectious diseases are picked up early and managed effectively.

The NHS provides the following advice to parents and carers:

It's fine to send your child to school with slight [cough](#) or [common cold](#) symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.

But if they have a high temperature, keep them off school until the temperature has gone.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

NB: this advice was correct at the point when it was approved but we appreciate that in the event of emerging health care challenges guidance can change. For real time advice please visit [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

Key Guidelines for Exclusion

Based upon Public Health England guidance we adhere to the following exclusion periods depending upon the symptoms and illness.

No Exclusion:

Head Lice

No Automatic Exclusion (depending on severity of illness)

Conjunctivitis, Tonsillitis, Roseola, Slapped Check, Threadworms, Hand, Foot and Mouth

48 Hours:

Vomiting – after last symptom; Diarrhoea – after last symptom; Impetigo – until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 hours after antibiotic treatment

4 Days from symptoms:

German Measles, Measles, and Chicken Pox – until vesicles have crusted over

5 Days from symptoms:

Whooping Cough – 5 days from commencing antibiotics; Mumps – 5 days after onset of swelling

Other:

Scarlet Fever – children can return 24 hours after commencing antibiotics; Scabies – after first treatment, Ringworm – exclusion not normally required.

Notifiable Diseases

There is a list of notifiable diseases: the schools have a duty to keep records of any children who have suffered from any of these illnesses.

In these cases we work closely with you the parents, PHE and Ofsted, to ensure we follow any additional advice that may be given.

If there is an outbreak of an infectious disease and/or following advice provided by Public Health England academies within the Forge Trust may increase the exclusion periods to manage the infection and reduce further transmission.

Information for Pregnant Mothers

There are a number of infections which can be harmful to the unborn baby. These include Chicken Pox; German Measles (Rubella); Slapped Cheek and Measles. As a provider we will ensure that good communication is available for parents where these infections are present using the academies' usual communication methods. We will also ensure a notice is placed on the door to EYFS, and around school where necessary.

If you or your child has been into school or the Foundation Unit when one of the above infections is present, we advise you to see your GP/Midwife to check if you are immune and seek their professional medical advice.

As a responsible childcare provider following advice from Public Health England, we recommend that all children follow the 'Routine childhood immunisation programme'. This reduces the risk of exposure to children in our care of infectious diseases.

Antibiotics/ oral prescriptive medicines (related policies – Administration of Medication Policy)

We are happy to administer the giving of antibiotics and other prescribed oral medications if your child has been prescribed them with written parental consent.

While the school will normally only issue prescribed medicines, with appropriate consent from parents, carers or guardians, school staff will administer appropriate over the counter medicines in line with parent directions, this will include antihistamine, paracetamol and ibuprofen with appropriate written consent and clear written directions from parents (see appendix 3).

NB where the school has a concern about inappropriate medication, ambiguous or unclear directions or possible adverse consequences, staff will adopt a precautionary approach and not administer the medicine until they are satisfied they have sufficient information to ensure the medication is safe for the child for further details please see the Administration of Medicines Policy.

Please ensure you discuss with the relevant member of staff your child's illness, dosage & frequency and any possible side effects your child may have from the medication. We will also work with health professionals to ensure that plans are in place to enable other essential medicines to be administered during the school day in line with our Administration of Medication Policy.

How can you help?

You can help support infection control by following the guidance in this policy and encouraging good personal hygiene:

- Regular hand washing with soap.

- Covering your mouth when you cough/sneeze and using a tissue where possible, disposing of tissues into the rubbish bin (with lids) promptly and carefully.
- Cleaning hard surfaces e.g. door handles.
- Making sure all children are encouraged and supported to follow the above.

For more information contact:

Information contact: www.publichealth.hscni.netor

www.gov.uk/government/organisations/Public-health-England

www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk