

**Managing Children who are Sick, Infectious or with Allergies**

At Ashdene Preschool we aim to provide care for healthy children through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic trigger.

**Procedures for Children who are Sick or Infectious**

* If children appear unwell during the day the Manager or Deputy or Senior supervisor will contact the parents and ask them to collect the child or send a known carer to collect them on their behalf.
* If a child appears to have a raised temperature we will remove outdoor clothing and keep them cool. If these measures are ineffective, we **MAY** given Calpol but this is only after obtaining **Verbal consent from the parents to ensure no other medication has been given.** This would only be given to prevent febrile convulsions as an emergency situation when the parent is on their way to collect the child. **The child must be collected and taken home.**
* Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, we ask parents to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting to ensure that they do not have a reaction to the medicine and they have had sufficient antibiotic to take effect.
* After sickness and diarrhoea, we ask parents to keep children at home for 48 hours following their last episode.
* Some activities, such as sand and water play, and self-serve snacks where there is a risk of cross-contamination may be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.

**Reporting of “Notifiable diseases”**

* If a child or adult is diagnosed as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection Regulations 2010 the GP will report this to Public Health England. We will follow any advice given to us by Public Health England.

**Nits and Head Lice**

* Nits and head lice are not excludable conditions.
* On identifying cases of head lice, we will inform parents and ask them to treat their child and all the family. A dated notice is displayed in preschool informing other parents.

**Procedures for Children with Allergies**

* When children start at preschool we ask parents if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the detailed child’s record form.
* If a child has a known allergy, we will complete an individual health care plan to detail the following;
* The allergen - i.e., the substance, material or whatever the child is allergic to, e.g., eggs, nuts, bee stings.
* The nature of the allergic reaction e.g., anaphylactic shock including rash, reddening of the skin, swelling and breathing problems.
* What to do in the case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how it is to be used e.g., EPI-pen.
* The care plan is kept in the child’s detailed child record file and a copy is displayed in both rooms and in the kitchen area.
* A risk assessment is completed, to identify risks posed, and identify control measures - such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen.
* The Primary School kitchens are also informed of any allergy/ dietary requirements and a photograph and information are displayed in the school kitchen.
* We are a **nut-free Pre-School**; **no nuts or nut products are used within the setting**, and where children bring in packed lunches, parents are informed that any food included in packed lunches must not contain nuts.

**Asthma**

* Asthma inhalers are oral medication and must be prescribed by a GP.
* Parents must complete a green PRN form when the inhaler is brought into preschool. This is kept in the child’s detailed record file and signed by the parent at the end of the session when an inhaler has been given.
* The medication is given by a senior staff member and witnessed. All medication forms are completed and signed by parents at the end of the day.

**Life-Saving Medication including Adrenaline Injections for Anaphylactic Shock**

**We must have:**

* An individual health care plan from the child’s GP/ Consultant stating the child’s condition and what medication if any is to be administered.
* Written consent from the parent /guardian allowing staff to administer medication. A completed PRN form (as above ) is kept in the child’s file.
* Proof of training in the administration of such medication by a children’s nurse specialist or community paediatric nurse.

**HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis Procedure**

* HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis A, B and C, are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults. We:
* Wear single-use vinyl gloves and aprons when changing children’s nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
* Bag soiled clothing for parents to take home for cleaning.
* Clear spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit using mild disinfectant solution and mops; any cloths used are disposed of with the clinical waste.
* Clean any tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit using a disinfectant.
* Ensure that children do not share tooth brushes, which are also soaked weekly in sterilising solution.

**Insurance Requirements for Children with Allergies and Disabilities**

* For children suffering life threatening conditions or requiring invasive treatments, written confirmation from our insurance provider must be obtained to extend the insurance. Staff must receive relevant training as required.

Certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below.

* At all times we ensure that the administration of medication is compliant with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
* Oral medication (See Administration of Medication Policy):
* Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer’s instructions clearly written on them.
* We must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.
* We adhere to all risk assessment procedures for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
* We must have the parents or guardians prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file. It is not necessary to forward copy documents to our insurance provider.
* For children with additional needs requiring assistance with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g., breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.:
* Prior written consent must be obtained from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
* Staff must have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include receiving appropriate instructions from parents or guardians.
* Copies of all letters relating to these children must first be sent to [the Early Years Alliance Insurance team for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.

**Child Displaying Symptoms of COVID 19**

If a child becomes unwell with COVID 19 related symptoms, including a cough, raised temperature, loss of taste, they should be sent home. The following procedures are to be followed:

* Wash hands before applying PPE.
* PPE to be worn, which consists of a surgical face mask, disposable gloves and plastic disposable apron.
* Parents advised to call NHS 111 and follow advice to book a COVID 19 test.
* Child to be isolated in a well-ventilated room/area with supporting member of staff until a parent arrives to collect them.
* If possible, child to sit outside on the grassed area away from others.
* Staff member is not required to go home unless they display symptoms.
* Await results of COVID 19 test before any action is taken re isolation of staff or temporary closure of room/preschool.

If a child sustains a minor injury, requiring first aid treatment, and is also displaying symptoms of COVID 19:

* Wash hands prior to putting on PPE (PPE as listed above).
* Clean wound with antiseptic wipes, dispose of wipes in disposable nappy bag, before placing in main outside rubbish bin. Follow normal first aid procedures for injury.
* Wear gloves to apply a cold compress if required.

Staff exposure to bodily fluids and child is displaying symptoms of COVID 19:

* Wash hands prior to putting on PPE (PPE as listed above).
* Use disposable vomit bowls and put tissues used in a disposable nappy bag before disposing of it in the main outside rubbish bin.

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| This Policy was adopted by:  On (date):  Date to be reviewed: September 2022  Signed on behalf of the management committee:  Name of signatory:  Role of Signatory (e.g. Manager): |
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