



ILLNESS and INFECTIONS

ILLNESS

When children first attend nursery, parents/carers may find that their child is prone to coughs and colds. This is normal!

If a child takes ill whilst at the Nursery, Nursery Staff will:

- Reassure, comfort and monitor the child
- Pass on information about the child’s condition to the Team-Leader and then onto the Nursery Manager
- The Team Leader or Nursery Manager will contact parents to inform them of the situation and to request arrangements be made to remove the child from nursery.
- If the child has a high temperature, confirmation will be sought using a thermometer. Staff will take steps to reduce the temperature of the child (eg by tepid sponging, removing some clothing and giving fluids) Parents will be notified by telephone. If the child’s temperature becomes dangerously high, parents will be asked to come to nursery to collect the child. In this situation, parents may be asked for consent for nursery staff to administer Calpol to prevent a possible febrile convulsion, while parents are on their way to collect the child.
- If staff feel that the condition is life-threatening, an ambulance will be called. Parents would be asked to meet nursery staff at the Accident & Emergency Department, York District Hospital.
- Team Leaders are required to record all illnesses in a nursery Illness Book under Department of Health guidelines.

INFECTION CONTROL

The Nursery must be informed of any illness/infection contracted by any child who attends.

If a child is ill s/he must not attend nursery until s/he is completely well.

York Childcare Ltd (YCL) does not exclude children who have a slight runny nose, but would ask for parents/carers co-operation in ensuring that children are well enough to attend nursery and cope with an active day.

Parents/carers should consider the risk to other children (and to staff) in the nursery if they suspect their child may have an illness that could be passed on.

Parents/carers should inform the nursery if their child will not be attending the nursery.

The following information is based on the “Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and Other Childcare Settings” issued by the Health Protection Agency and is accepted as part of YCL’s Infection Control Policy.

DISEASE/ILLNESS	EXCLUSION PERIOD
Chicken Pox	5 days from onset of rash and scabs have formed.
Conjunctivitis	May return as soon as treatment has commenced
German Measles (Rubella)	5 days from onset of rash



	(Nurseries must notify staff/mothers who may be pregnant)
Head Lice	None. Chemical treatment is recommended only in cases where live lice have been seen. Combing may be more effective.
Hand, Foot And Mouth	None once child is well
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted or healed
Influenza	None once child is well
Measles	Four days from onset of rash (Nurseries must notify staff/mothers who may be pregnant)
Meningococcal Meningitis/Septicaemia	The consultant in communicable disease control will give specific advice on any action needed. Siblings need not be excluded
Meningitis	None once child is well infection risk is minimal
Mumps	Exclude child for five days after onset of swelling
Scabies	Until treated
Scarlet Fever	Child can return 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment
Sickness & diarrhoea	48 hours after the last bout of either.
Slapped Cheek Syndrome (Parvovirus B19) Fifth Disease	None. (Nurseries must notify staff/mothers who may be pregnant)
Tonsillitis	None once child is well
Whooping Cough	5 days from commencement of treatment

To see the Health Protection Agency's summary sheet please go to:

http://www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1194947358374

For more detailed information on "Infectious Disease Control, Food Hygiene And Health And Safety Guidance In Childcare Settings" please go to:

http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1274087715902

If you are unable to open these links please contact the Nursery or Head Office for a printed copy.

If a child has been prescribed antibiotics they are not permitted to attend the nursery until 24 hours after the commencement of medicine, and only then at the discretion of the Team Leader/ Nursery Manager