

## Sickness and Illness

Our aim at Wood St Nursery is to promote the good health of all children attending. If a child is unwell it is in their best interest to be in a quiet home environment with adults they know well rather than at nursery with their peers. Also to minimise spread of infection, we ask that children do not attend nursery if they are unwell.

### Local Health Protection Team:

North London HPT  
5th Floor, 10 South Colonnade,  
London,  
E14 5EA

[london.region@ukhasa.gov.uk](mailto:london.region@ukhasa.gov.uk)

tel: 0300 303 0450

### Our procedures

- If a child becomes ill during the nursery 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, wherever possible.
- To protect other children and staff at the nursery, we follow the guidance given to us by Public Health England (Health protection in children and young people settings, including education) on exclusion times for specific illnesses. Please refer to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/exclusion-table>. This includes whilst symptomatic with vomiting and/or diarrhoea, and for 48 hours after the last symptoms were experienced.
- We inform all parents if there is a contagious infection identified in the nursery, to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness. We thoroughly clean all equipment and resources on a regular basis to reduce the spread of contagious infections.
- We notify Ofsted as soon as possible and in all cases within 14 days of the incident where we have any child or staff member with food poisoning.
- We may exclude a child on antibiotics for up to 48 hours if we have concerns about the child being subjected to the rigours of the nursery day (which requires socialising with other children and being part of the routine of a group setting) when they have first become ill and require a course of antibiotics, whilst the child recovers, and settles to tolerate the antibiotics. This will not be necessary if antibiotic treatment is part of an ongoing care plan to treat individual medical conditions e.g. asthma, and the child is not unwell.
- 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 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 nursery so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair, and to keep the child at home until they have been treated.

### Contacting the local Health Protection Team (HPT)

The nursery manager will contact the HPT for advice or to report any infectious diseases in the nursery, in line with the following government guidance:

Managing specific infectious diseases: A to Z: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/managing-specific-infectious-diseases-a-to-z>.

## **Transporting children to hospital procedure**

The nursery manager/room leader must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the sickness is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the sick child in your own vehicle
- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, contact the parent(s) and arrange to meet them at the hospital
- Inform a member of the management team immediately
- Redeploy staff if necessary to ensure there is adequate staff deployment to care for the remaining children
- 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. Other children may need lots of cuddles and reassurance too.