

The Mill Nursery

Illness Policy

The Mill Nursery encourages and promotes good health and hygiene for all the children in our nursery. With the well being of the sick child in mind and in the interests of the other children in the nursery if, in the opinion of the staff, a child is ill then the parent/carer will be contacted and requested to collect their child as soon as possible. A staff member will remain with the child at all times offering support and comfort until the parent collects. We would subsequently suggest that parents book an appointment with the doctor to ensure that their child does not suffer from an infectious disease and receives appropriate treatment if appropriate.

In the case of a serious illness occurring, the parent/carer will be contacted immediately along with a medical professional and the appropriate action taken. In the unlikely event of the parent/carer not being available, a senior member of the nursery team will assume charge and, if the child needs to go to hospital they will accompany the child to hospital along with all the relevant details and wait with the child until their parent/carer arrives.

Parents must notify the nursery if they are aware that their child has a contagious illness or if a doctor has confirmed the cause of illness. In the event of this, we would expect parents to cooperate with us by not bringing their child to the nursery until they are well enough or not contagious. Staff will also be asked not to attend work under the same circumstances. Children suffering from sickness/diarrhoea must not return to the nursery until at least 48 hours have elapsed from the last bout and they are eating. All absences must be paid in line with our fee policy. The nursery implements a 48 hour exclusion time for all children affected by any contagious illness in accordance with the Health Protection Agency guidance on infection control in settings.

Children receiving newly prescribed medication should have taken it for a minimum of 48 hours before returning to nursery, to ensure that they will not have any adverse reaction to it. Written permission will be required before nursery staff may administer creams, ointments or drugs. (See Medication Policy). Fees will be charged at the normal rate.

According to the Children Act Regulations, there are specific conditions and illnesses that are notifiable. If a child, parent, staff member or visitor suffers from such conditions, we will inform OFSTED and the local Public Health Services and notify all parents and children accordingly.

In the case of infestations such as head lice, staff will inform parents/carers of the problem and advise them how to proceed. Children must receive treatment before returning to nursery.

The staff at nursery must be convinced that the child has returned to good health before re-admitting them. Please note that the Childcare Manager retains the right to

refuse the return of a child to nursery if she feels that the exclusion periods have not been adhered to and the child may pose a risk to other's health.

Covid-19
If a child displays symptoms of Covid-19 then they will be isolated from the other children in a room with a member of staff. If the staff member is unable to keep a 2 meters distance from the children then they must wear full PPE. Parents will be contacted immediately and asked to collect their children. The nursery asks that the child is taken for a test by the parents. Children must isolate for 7 days and the household where they live must isolate for 14 days after this. If a child has a test and it is negative they can return to nursery before this time. If they have a test which is positive the whole 'bubble' group they are part of must be sent home immediately to isolate for 14 days. Children and staff can return if they receive a negative test result in these 14 days. As per our fees policy, all absences must be paid for in full. The nursery will not administer Calpol or any other proscribed medication as this may cover a temperature.
The main symptoms of Covid-19 from the NHS website our

- **high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms.

Policy endorsement

Signed by:

Name:

Position:

Date: