



# The Stacey Pre-School

Play • Explore • Discover • Learn

The Stacey Centre, Walsall Road, Copnor, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO3 6DN  
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Registered Charity Number: 2783644 Ofsted Registration: 2673867

## If Your Child is Unwell

### When you **MUST** keep your child home:

It is the parent/carer's responsibility NOT to send their child to Pre-School when

- the child is either unwell, appears unwell or 'off-colour' or if it is suspected that they may be unwell, or
- the child has a high temperature, or
- the child has had diarrhoea and/or sickness within the last 48 hours, or
- the child has been prescribed anti-biotics and 48 hours have not elapsed since their first dose, or
- you have administered a non-prescription ibuprofen or paracetamol based medicine (e.g. *Calpol* or *Nurofen for Children*) for whatever reason, on the day that your child is due at Pre-School. This is because Calpol, for example, may reduce the symptoms of a fever/high temperature but will not address the underlying cause which may potentially be an infection since a fever is the body's natural defence against an infection e.g. tonsillitis, cold, flu, etc.

Whilst we aim to provide the best care for all children at The Stacey Pre-School, especially when they may become unwell during their session, any child that is unwell will of course require 1:1 care, which unfortunately, we are unable to provide for a prolonged period of time in the setting. We would also expect that the child would be unable to fully participate in Pre-School activities and we believe that the best place for any unwell child is for them to be in their own home.

Therefore, if a child becomes unwell during their session we will contact you to collect your child without delay.

All staff and parents/carers have a joint responsibility not to put other children or staff in the setting at risk of contracting a potential illness or contagious disease where this could be avoided. For this reason, If any child appears unwell when being brought into Pre-School, the Pre-School Manager/Deputy reserve the right to refuse admission to that child based on her observations of the child and discussion with the parent/carer.

### If your child has a high temperature/fever (38°C or above)

A temperature/fever is the body's natural response to fighting infection, for example coughs, colds, tonsillitis, chickenpox, and other common childhood illnesses or after receiving a vaccination, and can cause a child to feel unwell.

If your child has a high temperature/fever you **MUST** keep them home.

If a member of staff suspects a child has developed a temperature during their session, they will use a digital forehead temperature scanner to take 2 x readings, 5 minutes apart and will use a common sense approach when doing so. If the child's temperature is recorded at 38°C this indicates a high temperature and the Pre-School Manager/Deputy will contact the child's parent to arrange for the child to be collected without delay.

The child's temperature will be recorded on an Accident/Incident Form by a staff member, a copy of which will be given to the parent/carer and a copy retained to the child's file.

### For any other contagious diseases/infections

The Stacey Pre-School will use a common sense approach and take advice from the NHS website, Portsmouth City Council's Early Years department and their own Risk Assessment to reach a conclusion as to whether a child

may need to stay home temporarily to protect other adults or children in the setting, and we reserve the right to do so.

**When your child is absent**

Please contact us on the first day of your child's illness. You can do this by :

- texting or calling the Pre-School mobile on 07592 222318
- or
- emailing us at [thestaceypreschool@gmail.com](mailto:thestaceypreschool@gmail.com)

If your child is late/absent for their session and you have not made contact with us, we will contact you by phone or by text message to check on your child's wellbeing and to record the reason for their absence.

Please keep us informed by text or email as to your child's wellbeing during their period of absence.

All fees (or allocation of government funded childcare hours) will still apply during your child's absence and we are unable to issue refunds or swap days because your child has been absent from the setting.

## When you should keep your child home from Pre-School

[a reference guide for parents/carers]

| Illness                    | Can my child come to Pre-School?            | Notes:  |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| Antibiotics                | Yes – but only after 48 hours of first dose | Your child can attend Pre-School 48 hours after they have received their first dose of anti-biotics. [our Administering Medicines policy will then apply]   |
| Chickenpox                 | No  | Your child can return only once all the spots have crusted over and at least 4 days after the spots first appeared. We will notify all parents that we have had a case of chickenpox at the setting   |
| Cold Sore                  | Yes   | Encourage your child not to touch the blister or kiss anyone or to share bottles, cups or towels  |
| Coughs & Colds, minor      | Yes   | Providing they do not have a fever/high temperature and ONLY have a minor cough or common cold, your child can attend Pre-School  |
| Conjunctivitis             | Yes   | Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly. Visit your pharmacist for advice.   |
| COVID-19                   | Yes   | If your child has mild symptoms (such as a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough) and they are otherwise feeling well they can come to Pre-School.  |
|                            | No  | If your child has any of the above symptoms AND have either of these symptoms... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• they do not feel well, or appear unwell</li> <li>• have a high temperature</li> </ul> your child should stay home and avoid contact with other people wherever possible.            |
|                            | No  | Although not required to do a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test if they have symptoms, IF your child has tested positive for COVID-19 they should stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took a test.  |
| Diarrhoea and/or Vomiting  | No  | Your child should stay home until they are no longer being sick or have diarrhoea and must not return to Pre-School for at least 48 hours (2 days) after their last bout of sickness/diarrhoea.   |
| Ear Infection              | No  | If your child has an ear infection AND a high temperature OR an ear infection with severe earache, please keep them home until they are feeling better. They can return to Pre-School once they are no longer in discomfort/pain and providing they do not have a fever.                                      |
| Fever or High Temperature  | No  | A high temperature (fever) is 38 <sup>0</sup> C or above.<br><br>If your child has a high temperature (fever) you must keep your child home.<br><br>If you child develops a high temperature during the day whilst in our care, we will call you so that you can arrange to collect your child without delay. |
| Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease | Yes   | If your child is well enough, or seems well enough, there is no need to keep them off Pre-School. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.  |

|   |                          |   |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| Head Lice or Nits   | Yes –<br>after treatment | <p>We ask parents not to send their child to Pre-School with untreated head lice.</p> <p>Staff will not diagnose headlice infection unless they have found a living, moving louse, or if they have evidence of this from the parent/carer.</p> <p>If staff become aware that your child may have head lice (or nits) as they have noticed a living moving louse, we will contact you to ask you to collect your child so that they can be treated without delay.</p> <p>Your child can return to Pre-School once they have received treatment.</p> <p>We will notify all parents that we have had a case of head lice in the setting so that they can check their own child for signs of infection.</p> |
| Impetigo  | No                       | Keep your child home until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for a minimum of 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment.  |
| Medicines –<br>Non Prescription<br>including Paracetamol<br>or Ibuprofen based<br>medicines.<br>Including <u>Calpol</u> | No                       | <p>If you have given your child a paracetamol or ibuprofen based medicine for children e.g. Calpol or Nurofen for children on the same day that they are due in for their session, you must keep your child home as your child is likely in pain, discomfort, has a high temperature/fever or is otherwise not well enough for Pre-School.</p> <p>We do not administer further doses of non-prescription medicines.</p> <p>Brand names include:<br/>Calpol, Disprol, Hedex, Medinol, Panadol,<br/>Nurofen for children, Calprofen, Brufen</p>   |
| Ringworm  | Yes                      | This is a fungal infection and may require prescription medicine from your GP. Once your child has started treatment they can return to Pre-School.   |
| Rash  | Yes                      | After medical advice has been sought for a rash of unknown origin.  |
| Scarlet Fever   | No                       | A child with scarlet fever will need treatment with antibiotics prescribed by a GP, otherwise they will be infectious for 2-3 weeks. Following successful treatment and provided your child is no longer infectious, and provided they are well enough, they can then return to Pre-School.   |
| Sore Throat   | Yes/No                   | You can bring your child to Pre-School if they have a sore throat BUT if they also have a high temperature they should stay home. (Sore throat and a temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis)  |
| Slapped Cheek   | Yes                      | Once the rash appears, the child is no longer infectious and you will not need to keep them off Pre-School.   |
| Threadworms   | Yes                      | Your child can attend Pre-School if they have threadworms. Ask your pharmacist for treatment advice.  |

*The above list of common childhood illnesses is not exhaustive and we reserve the right to temporarily suspend your child's registration or temporarily refuse admittance to the setting if your child has contracted an infection, disease or condition that is not listed above and for which our risk assessment indicates that we are unable to mitigate risks or establish adequate control measures to ensure the health and safety of other children or staff in the Pre-School.*

**Notes:**

“If your Child is Unwell” is an excerpt from our Health & Safety Policy [Health Procedures: 04.5 “Poorly Children”] which is available in full to view on our website or available in printed format on request.