The Stacey Pre-School
Play • Explore • Discover • Learn

04 Health Policy

Alongside associated procedures in 04.1-04.7 Health, this policy was adopted by *The Stacey Pre-School on 01.09.25*

Aim

The Stacey Pre-School is a suitable, clean, and safe place for children to be cared for, where they can grow and learn. They meet all statutory requirements for promoting health and hygiene and fulfil the criteria for meeting the relevant Early Years Foundation Stage Safeguarding and Welfare requirements.

Objectives

We promote health through:

- Ensuring emergency and first aid treatment is given where necessary.
- Ensuring that medicine necessary to maintain health is given correctly and in accordance with legal requirements.
- Identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic substance.
- Having ongoing discussions with parents/carers to develop allergy action plans for managing individual children's known allergies and intolerances.
- Ensuring that all staff are aware of the symptoms and treatments for allergies and anaphylaxis and that children can develop these at any time, especially during weaning.
- Ensuring that all staff know the difference between allergies and intolerances.
- Identifying food ingredients that contain recognised allergens and displaying this information for parents/carers.
- Identifying and promoting health through taking the necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection and taking appropriate action when children are ill.
- Ensuring that ongoing discussions with parents take place regarding the stage their child is at in relation to introducing solid foods including the texture the child is familiar with.
- Ensuring that food prepared is in line with the child's individual developmental needs
- Working in partnership with parents to help children to move on to the next stage of weaning at a pace that is right for their child.
- Ensuring that food is prepared for children in a way that prevents choking.
- Ensuring that babies and young children are sat safely in a highchair or suitable low sized chair when eating.
- Ensuring that children are always in sight and hearing of a staff member, who is a paediatric first aider, whilst eating and the staff member is sat facing the children.
- Recording all choking incidents that requires intervention.
- Promoting healthy lifestyle choices through diet and exercise.
- Supporting parents right to choose complementary therapies.
- Recognising the benefits of baby and child massage, by parents/carers or staff carrying out massage under conditions that maintain the personal safety of children.
- Pandemic flu planning or illness outbreak management as per DfE and World Health Organisation (WHO) guidance.

Legal references

Medicines Act (1968)
Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR)
Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations (2002)
Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981
Food Information Regulations 2014
Early Years Foundation Stage 2025

Further guidance

Allergy action plan

04.1 Accidents and emergency treatment

Person responsible for checking and stocking first aid box: the Setting Manager.

The setting provides care for children and promotes health by ensuring emergency and first aid treatment is given as required. There are also procedures for managing food allergies in section **03 Food safety and nutrition** and **04 Health**.

- Parents/carers' consent to emergency medical treatment consent on registration.
- All contracted Stacey Pre-School employees with contracted hours hold current paediatric first aid certificates and regularly update their training.
- At least one person who has a current paediatric first aid (PFA) certificate **is** always be on the premises and available when children are on the premises and must accompany children on outings.
- We consider the number of children, staff, staff breaks and the layout of our setting to ensure that a paediatric first aider is always available and can respond to emergencies.
- We ensure that the training provider who delivers PFA training to our staff are competent.
- Students and trainees that have PFA training may be included in ratios at the level below their level of study if we are satisfied that they are competent and responsible.
- First Aid certificates are renewed at least every three years. In line with the EYFS,
- All staff who obtained a level 2 and/or level 3 qualification since 30 June 2016 must obtain a PFA qualification within three months of starting work to be counted in ratios.
- All members of staff know the location of First Aid boxes, the contents of which are in line with St John's Ambulance recommendations as follows:
  - 20 individually wrapped sterile plasters (assorted sizes)
  - 2 sterile eye pads
  - 4 individually wrapped triangular bandages (preferably sterile)
  - 6 safety pins
  - 2 large, individually wrapped, sterile, un-medicated wound dressings
  - 6 medium, individually wrapped, sterile, un-medicated wound dressings
  - a pair of disposable gloves
  - adhesive tape
  - a plastic face shield (optional)
- No other item is stored in a First Aid box.
- Vinyl single use gloves are also kept near to (not in) the box, as well as a thermometer.
- The setting manager is responsible for checking and replenishing the First Aid Box contents.
- A supply of ice/cooling gel packs is kept in the fridge in the pantry kitchen.
- For minor injuries and accidents, First Aid treatment is given by a qualified first aider; the event is recorded in the setting's Accident Record book or digital recording system. Parents/carers may have a photocopy of the accident form on request.
- In the event of minor injuries or accidents, parents/carers are normally informed when they collect their child, unless the child is unduly upset, or members of staff have any concerns about the injury. In which case they will contact the parent for clarification of what they would like to do, i.e. collect the child or take them home and seek further advice from NHS 111.

Serious accidents or injuries

- An ambulance is called for children requiring emergency treatment.
- First aid is given until the ambulance arrives on scene. If at any point it is suspected that the child has died, **06.7 Death of a child on site** procedure is implemented and the police are called immediately.
- The registration form is taken to the hospital with the child.
- Parents/carers are contacted and informed of what has happened and where their child is being taken to.
- If the parents/carers do not arrive at the setting before the ambulance sets off for the hospital, a member of staff accompanies the child and remains with them until the parent/carer arrives.
- The setting manager arranges for a taxi to take the child and carer to hospital for further checks for minor injuries, if deemed to be necessary.

Recording and reporting

- In the event of a serious accident, injury, or serious illness, the setting manager notifies the owner/trustees/committee using 6.1c Confidential Safeguarding Incident report form, or other agreed reporting format, as soon as possible.
- If required, a RIDDOR form is completed; one copy is sent to the parent/carer, one for the child's file and one for the local authority Health and Safety Officer.
- The trustees/committee are notified by the setting manager of any serious accident or injury to, or serious illness of, or the death of, any child whilst in their care to be able to notify Ofsted and any advice given will be acted upon.
- Notification to Ofsted is made as soon as is reasonably practicable and always within 14 days of the incident occurring.
- The designated person will, after consultation with the owners/directors/trustees, inform local child protection agencies of these events

Further guidance

Accident Record (Alliance Publication)
Choosing a first aid training provider https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/geis3.htm

04.2 Administration of medicine

Key persons are responsible for administering medication to their key children; ensuring consent forms are completed, medicines stored correctly, and records kept.

Administering medicines during the child's session will only be done if necessary and for medicine prescribed by a medical professional.

If a child has not been given a prescription medicine before, especially a baby/child under two, it is advised that parents keep them at home for 48 hours to ensure no adverse effect, and to give it time to take effect. The setting managers must check the insurance policy document to be clear about what conditions must be reported to the insurance provider.

Consent for administering medication

- Only a person with parental responsibility (PR), or a foster carer may give consent. A childminder, grandparent, parent/carer's partner who does not have PR, cannot give consent.
- When bringing in medicine, the parent informs the Pre-School Manager or the Deputy.
- Parents/carers are required to sign a consent form to administer prescribed medicine. This will be administered by the setting Manager or the setting Deputy.

- Staff who receive the medication check,
    - it is in date and
    - it is prescribed specifically for the current condition.
    - it is in the original container (not decanted into a separate bottle).
    - It is labelled with the child's name and original pharmacist's label if prescribed.
- Medication dispensed by a hospital pharmacy will not have the child's details on the label but should have a dispensing label. Staff must check with parents/carers and record the circumstance of the events and hospital instructions as relayed to them by the parents/carers.
- Members of staff who receive the medication ask the parent/carer to sign a consent form stating the following information. No medication is given without these details:
    - full name of child and date of birth
    - name of medication and strength
    - who prescribed it (if applicable)
    - dosage to be given
    - how the medication should be stored and expiry date
    - a note of any side effects that may be expected
    - signature and printed name of parent/carer and date

Storage of medicines

All medicines are stored safely. Refrigerated medication is stored separately or clearly labelled in the pantry fridge, or in a marked box in the main kitchen fridge.

All non refrigerated medicine is stored in a box marked "Medicines" and is kept in the locked store cupboard in the Main Hall kitchen to prevent tampering, loss, damage or theft.

- The key person is responsible for ensuring medicine is handed back at the end of the day to the parent/carer.
- For some conditions, medication for an individual child may be kept at the setting. 04.2a Healthcare plan form must be completed. Key persons check that it is in date and return any out-of-date medication to the parent/carer.
- Parents/carers do not access where the medication is stored, to reduce the possibility of a mix-up with medication for another child, or staff not knowing there has been a change.

Record of administering medicines

A record of medicines administered is kept by the setting manager. Key persons use this record sheet to update medicine administered. A record is kept in the child's file. All staff are made aware of this and reminded when a medicine has been accepted into the setting.
The medicine record, records:

- name of child
- name and strength of medication
- the date and time of dose
- dose given and method
- signed by key person/setting manager
- verified by parent/carer signature at the end of the day

- A witness signs the medicine record book to verify that they have witnessed medication being given correctly according to the procedures here.
- No child may self-administer. If children are capable of understanding when they need medication, e.g. for asthma, they are encouraged to tell their key person what they need. This does not replace staff vigilance in knowing and responding.
- The medication records are monitored to look at the frequency of medication being given. For example, a high incidence of antibiotics being prescribed for several children at similar times may indicate a need for better infection control.

Children with long term medical conditions requiring ongoing medication

- Risk assessment is carried out for children that require ongoing medication. This is the responsibility of the setting manager and key person. Other medical or social care personnel may be involved in the risk assessment.
- Parents/carers contribute to risk assessment. They are shown around the setting, understand routines and activities, and discuss any risk factor for their child.
- For some medical conditions, key staff will require basic training to understand it and know how medication is administered. Training needs are part of the risk assessment.
- Risk assessment includes any activity that may give cause for concern regarding an individual child's health needs.
- Risk assessment also includes arrangements for medicines on outings; advice from the child's GP's is sought, if necessary, where there are concerns.
- **04.2a Health care plan form** is completed fully with the parent/carer; outlining the key person's role and what information is shared with other staff who care for the child.
- The plan is reviewed every six months (more if needed). This includes reviewing the medication, for example, changes to the medication or the dosage, any side effects noted etc.

Managing medicines on trips and outings

- Children are accompanied by their key person, or other staff member who is fully informed about their needs and medication.
- Medication is taken in a plastic box labelled with the child's name, name of medication, copy of the consent form and a card or electronic device to record administration, with details as above.
- The card is later stapled to the medicine record book and the parent signs it.
- If a child on medication must be taken to hospital, the child's medication is taken in a sealed plastic box clearly labelled as above.

Staff taking medication

Staff taking medication must inform their manager. The medication must be stored securely in staff lockers or in the Stacey Centre office.
The manager must be made aware of any contra-indications for the medicine so that they can risk assess and take appropriate action as required.

04.2a Health care plan

Please note that this form must be used alongside the individual child's registration form which contains emergency parent/carer contact and other personal details.

Name of Child	
Date of Birth	
Child's address	
Contact information for family or main carers	
1.Name	
Relationship to child	
Contact numbers	
2. Name	
Relationship to child	
Contact numbers	
Medical diagnosis, condition or allergy	
Clinic or Hospital contact	
Name	
Phone no.	
GP/Doctor	
Name	
Phone No.	

Describe medical needs and give details of symptoms
Risk assessment completed? **If no, please state why?** **If yes, please include details here** **Date completed:**
Daily care requirements e.g. before meals/going outdoors
Describe what constitutes an emergency for the child and what actions are to be taken if this occurs

Name/s of staff responsible for an emergency situation with this child

Parent/carer and person completing this form must sign below to indicate that the information in this plan is accurate and the parent/carer agrees for any relevant procedures to be carried out

Parent/carer name	Signature	Date
Key person's name	Signature	Date
Setting Manager's name	Signature	Date

For children requiring lifesaving or invasive medication and/or care, for example, rectal diazepam, adrenaline injectors, Epipens, Anapens, JextPens, maintaining breathing apparatus, changing colostomy or feeding tubes, approval must be received from the child's GP/consultant, as follows:

I have read the information in this Individual Health Plan and have found it to be accurate.

Name of GP/consultant:		Date:	
Signature:			

Review completed (at least every six months)

Parent/carer name	Signature	Date
Key person's name	Signature	Date
Setting manager's name	Signature	Date

Copies circulated to:

Parents/carers
Child's personal records (with registration form)
GP/Consultant – if required

04.3 Life-saving medication and invasive treatments

Life-saving medication and invasive treatments may include adrenaline injections (Epipens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc) or invasive treatment such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy).

- The key person responsible for the intimate care of children who require life-saving medication or invasive treatment will undertake their duties in a professional manner having due regard to the procedures listed above.
- The child's welfare is paramount, and their experience of intimate and personal care should be positive. Every child is treated as an individual and care is given gently and sensitively; no child should be attended to in a way that causes distress or pain.
- The key person works in close partnership with parents/carers and other professionals to share information and provide continuity of care.
- Children with complex and/or long-term health conditions have a health care plan (04.2a) in place which considers the principles and best practice guidance given here.
- Key persons have appropriate training for administration of treatment and are aware of infection control best practice, for example, using personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Key persons speak directly to the child, explaining what they are doing as appropriate to the child's age and level of comprehension.
- Children's privacy is considered and balanced with safeguarding and support needs when changing clothing, nappies and toileting.

Record keeping

For a child who requires invasive treatment the following must be in place from the outset:

- a letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication if any is to be administered
- written consent from parents/carers allowing members of staff to administer medication
- proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children's nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse
- a healthcare plan (04.2a)

Copies of all letters relating to these children must be sent to the insurance provider for appraisal. Confirmation will then be issued in writing confirming that the insurance has been extended. A record is made in the medication record book of the intimate/invasive treatment each time it is given.

Physiotherapy

- Children who require physiotherapy whilst attending the setting should have this carried out by a trained physiotherapist.
- If it is agreed in the health care plan that the key person should undertake part of the physiotherapy regime then the required technique must be demonstrated by the physiotherapist personally; written guidance must also be given and reviewed regularly. The physiotherapist should observe the educator applying the technique in the first instance.

Safeguarding/child protection

- Educators recognise that children with SEND are particularly vulnerable to all types of abuse, therefore the safeguarding procedures are followed rigorously.
- If an educator has any concerns about physical changes noted during a procedure, for example unexplained marks or bruising then the concerns are discussed with the designated safeguarding lead and the relevant procedure is followed.

Treatments such as inhalers or Epi-pens must be immediately accessible in an emergency.

04.4 Allergies and food intolerance

Before a child starts at The Stacey Pre-School, parents/carers are asked if their child has any known allergies or food intolerance. This information is recorded on the registration form. On going discussions must take place with parents/carers and where appropriate health professionals to develop allergy action plans for managing any known allergies and food intolerances. This information must be kept up to date on a child's registration form and shared with all staff.

- All staff at The Stacey Pre-School must be aware of the symptoms and treatments for allergies and anaphylaxis and the difference between allergies and food intolerances
- If a child has an allergy or food intolerance, 01.1a Generic risk assessment form is completed with the following information:
    - the risk identified – the allergen (i.e. the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc.)
    - the level of risk, taking into consideration the likelihood of the child coming into contact with the allergen
    - control measures, such as prevention from contact with the allergen review measures
- 04.2a Health care plan form must be completed with:
    - the nature of the reaction e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc.
    - managing allergic reactions, medication used and method (e.g. Epipen)
- The child's name is added to the Dietary Requirements list.
- A copy of the risk assessment and health care plan is kept in the child's personal file and is shared with all staff and is also kept in the cook's Food Allergy and Dietary Needs file.
- Parents/carers show staff how to administer medication in the event of an allergic reaction.
- Generally, no nuts or nut products are used within the setting.
- Parents/carers are made aware, so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in.
- Any foods containing food allergens are identified on children's menus.

Oral Medication

- Oral medication must be prescribed or have manufacturer's instructions written on them.
- Staff must be provided with clear written instructions for administering such medication.
- All risk assessment procedures are adhered to for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
- The setting must have the parents/carers' prior written consent. Consent is kept on file.
- For other life-saving medication and invasive treatments please refer to 04.2 Administration of medicine.

04.5 Poorly children

- If a child appears unwell during the day at The Stacey Pre-School, for example has a raised temperature, sickness, diarrhoea* and/or pains, particularly in the head or stomach then the setting manager calls the parents/carers and asks them to collect the child or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.
- If a child has a raised temperature, top clothing may be removed to make them more comfortable, but children are not undressed or sponged down to cool their temperature. A high temperature should never be ignored, but it is a natural response to infection.
- A child's temperature is taken and checked regularly, using Fever Scans or other means i.e. ear thermometer.
- If a baby's temperature does not go down, and is worryingly high, then Calpol may be given after gaining verbal consent from the parent/carer where possible. This is to reduce the risk of febrile convulsions, particularly for babies under 2 years old. Parents/carers sign the medication record when they collect their child. **
- In an emergency an ambulance is called, and the parents/carers are informed.
- Parents/carers are advised to seek medical advice before returning them to the setting; the setting can refuse admittance to children who have a raised temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, parents/carers are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours.
- After diarrhoea or vomiting, parents/carers are asked to keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.
- Some activities such as sand and water play, and self-serve snack will be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.
- The setting has information about excludable diseases and exclusion times.
- The setting manager notifies the owner/trustees/directors if there is an outbreak of an infection (affects more than 3-4 children) and keeps a record of the numbers and duration of each event.

Notifiable diseases and infection control

If educators suspect a child who falls ill whilst in their care is suffering from a serious disease that may have been contracted in the United Kingdom or abroad, immediate medical assessment is required. The service manager or deputy will call 111 and inform parents / carers.

Preventative measures are taken to reduce the risk of an outbreak returning. When an individual shows signs of an infectious illness, they are advised not to attend the service. If a child is already at the setting, they will be made comfortable in a space away from the other children to rest until they are able to be collected. The importance of thorough handwashing will be reiterated, and the educators will promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach with children and young people.

In the case of an outbreak of a notifiable disease which has been confirmed by a medical professional, the setting manager will seek further advice from the UKHSA, if not already contacted by them.

The setting manager has a list of notifiable diseases and contacts the UK Health Security Agency(UKHSA), Ofsted, or the childminder agency in the event of an outbreak.

Unwell children upon arrival

- On arrival, it is vital that parents/carers inform a member of staff if they notice their child may be showing signs of being unwell.
- It is the responsibility of the parents / carers to ensure their child does not attend the setting if they are not fit to; this is a precautionary measure to prevent other children or staff from becoming ill.
- If a child is brought into the setting with a non-prescription medication to treat a temporary illness or appears to show signs of being unwell, the setting manager will use their discretion to decide whether a child is fit to remain in the service.

Infection control for bodily fluids – transmissible viruses

- 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. Transmittable viruses are spread through bodily fluids. Hygiene measures are put in place to protect all staff and children/young people. These include single use vinyl gloves and aprons are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Protective rubber gloves are used for cleaning/sluicing clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and bagged for parents/carers to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using mild disinfectant solution and designated area mops; cloths used are disposed of with clinical waste.
- Tables, other furniture or toys/resources affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are removed where possible and cleaned using disinfectant. For larger items such as furniture, these must be cleaned immediately with disinfectant.
- Baby mouthing toys must be cleaned prior to another baby using them. All toys/resources are cleaned regularly. As a minimum, this should be carried out weekly, using sterilising solution for plastic toys/resources.

Handwashing

- Handwashing is a crucial infection control measure which reduces the spread of illness. Adults, children and young people should regularly wash their hands, and increase this where there is an infection outbreak.
- This should be carried out by all:
    - After outside breaks
    - Before meals and snack times
    - Before preparation of snack and meals
    - After using the toilet
    - After nappy or clothing changes
    - After the removal of personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves.
    - After blowing noses
    - Before and after administering medication

Public Health England advises that children and staff should be encouraged to catch sneezes with a tissue, bin the tissue and wash their hands.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition; although in exceptional cases parents may be asked to keep the child away from the setting until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family, using current recommended treatments methods if they are found.

**Diarrhoea is defined as 3 or more liquid or semi-liquid stools in a 24-hour period. (www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-9-managing-specific-infectious-diseases#diarrhoea-and-vomiting-gastroenteritis)*

*****Paracetamol based medicines (e.g. Calpol)***

The use of paracetamol-based medicine may not be agreed in all cases. A setting cannot take bottles of non-prescription medicine from parents to hold on a 'just in case' basis unless there is an immediate reason for doing so.

The Stacey Pre-School does not keep a supply of paracetamol based medicines on the premises as we are not insured to "prescribe." Neither do we hold them when supplied by parents on a "just in case" basis.
A child over two who is not well, and has a temperature, must be kept cool and the parents asked to collect straight away.
Whilst the brand name Calpol is referenced, there are other products which are paracetamol or Ibuprofen based pain and fever relief such as Nurofen for children over 3 months.

Further guidance

Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings (Public Health Agency) https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf
High temperature (fever) in children - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

04.5a Infection control

Good practice infection control is paramount in The Stacey Pre-School. Young children's immune systems are still developing, and they are therefore more susceptible to illness.

Prevention

- Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have symptoms of an infectious illness do not attend settings and stay at home for the recommended exclusion time (see below UKHSA link).
- Always clean hands thoroughly, and more often than usual where there is an infection outbreak.
- Ensure good respiratory hygiene amongst children and staff by promoting 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- Where necessary, for instance, where there is an infection outbreak, wear appropriate PPE.

Response to an infection outbreak

- Manage confirmed cases of a contagious illness by following the guidance from the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)

Informing others

Early years providers have a duty to inform Ofsted of any serious accidents, illnesses or injuries as follows:

- Anything that requires resuscitation.
- Admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours.
- A broken bone or fracture.
- Dislocation of any major joint, such as the shoulder, knee, hip or elbow.
- Any loss of consciousness.
- Severe breathing difficulties, including asphyxia.
- Anything leading to hypothermia or heat-induced illness.

In some circumstances this may include a confirmed case of a Notifiable Disease in their setting, if it meets the criteria defined by Ofsted above. Please note that it is not the responsibility of the setting to diagnose a notifiable disease. This can only be done by a clinician (GP or Doctor). If a child is displaying symptoms that indicate they may be suffering from a notifiable disease, parents must be advised to seek a medical diagnosis, which will then be 'notified' to the relevant body. Once a diagnosis is confirmed, the setting may be contacted by the UKHSA or may wish to contact them for further advice.

Further guidance

Good Practice in Early Years Infection Control (Alliance Publication)

04.6 Oral health

The Stacey Pre-School provides care for children and promotes health through promoting oral health and hygiene, encouraging healthy eating, healthy snacks and tooth brushing.

- Fresh drinking water is always available and easily accessible.
- Sugary drinks are not served.
- In partnership with parents/carers, babies are introduced to an open free-flowing cup at 6 months and from 12 months are discouraged from using a bottle.
- Only water and milk are served with morning and afternoon snacks.
- Children are offered healthy nutritious snacks with no added sugar.
- Parents/carers are discouraged from sending in confectionary as a snack or treat.
- Staff follow the Infant & Toddler Forum's Ten Steps for Healthy Toddlers.

Toothbrushing at the setting

- Children are encouraged to brush their teeth as part of the daily routine. Teeth should not be cleaned for at least one hour after a meal as this can cause loss of enamel.
- Each child has their own toothbrush, which is stored individually to prevent accidental contact and cross contamination.
- A small amount of toothpaste is put onto a blue paper towel before applying to the brush to prevent cross contamination.
- Toothbrushes are cleaned at each session and sterilised weekly in Milton or similar disinfecting fluid.
- Toothbrushes are changed every three months and provided by parents/carers.
- Oral hygiene activities are included in planning at least every three months when toothbrushes are changed.
- The setting co-ordinates with local oral health and ensure procedures are reviewed regularly, additional guidance from the local team may be added to this procedure.

Pacifiers/dummies

- Parents/carers are *advised* to stop using dummies/pacifiers once their child is 12 months old.
- Dummies that are damaged are disposed of and parents/carers are told that this has happened

Further guidance

Infant & Toddler Forum: Ten Steps for Healthy Toddlers www.infantandtoddlerforum.org/toddlers-to-preschool/healthy-eating/ten-steps-for-healthy-toddlers/

04.7 Baby and child massage

Baby and child massage will not be conducted in the setting as:

- The Stacey Pre-School staff are not currently qualified in baby or child massage
- Our insurance does not cover for our staff to provide massage within the setting.

04.8 When To Keep Your Child Home

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 No No	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. If your child has any of the above symptoms AND have either of these symptoms… • they do not feel well, or appear unwell • have a high temperature your child should stay home and avoid contact with other people wherever possible. 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 38^0C or above. • If your child has a high temperature (fever) you must keep your child home. • If your 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.
Head Lice or Nits	Yes – after treatment	We ask parents not to send their child to Pre-School with untreated head lice. 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. 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. Your child can return to Pre-School once they have received treatment. 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.

Head Injury that required medical treatment.	Yes – after 48 hours	If your child has suffered a head injury and/or has needed treatment from medical professionals following a head injury, the NHS website recommends that an "adult stays with … your child for at least the first 24 hours" and for parents to be alert for the symptoms of concussion and that *"children should avoid rough play for a few days."* and to remain alert for "*symptoms of concussion, such as a slight headache or feeling sick or dazed, for up to 2 weeks…symptoms usually start within 24 hours, but sometimes may not appear for up to 3 weeks."* With this in mind, it is our policy for parents to keep their children at home for the first 48 hours following a head injury that has required medical treatment.
Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease	No	A contagious viral infection that can also affect adults, it usually gets better on its own in 5-10 days. Symptoms include: • Sore throat • High temperature • Poor appetite • Mouth ulcers • Raised rash of spots on hands and feet, sometimes in the 'pants' zone.(Spots can look pink, red or darker depending on skin tone – generally not itchy) • Headache or general feeling of being unwell. A pharmacist can confirm if it is hand, foot & mouth and may advise on treatments to relieve the pain or discomfort e.g. Calpol, mouthwash or similar. Whilst Hand, Foot & Mouth disease is not on the government exclusion list, we have decided not to admit children with hand, foot and mouth disease into the setting as it is contagious and whilst your child may have mild symptoms it is our experience that another child, or a staff member, may not. We therefore recommend a temporary exclusion whilst your child has any of the above symptoms.
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 – Non Prescription including Paracetamol or Ibuprofen based medicines. e.g. Calpol	No	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. We do not administer further doses of non-prescription medicines. Brand names include: Calpol, Disprol, Hedex, Medinol, Panadol, Nurofen for children, Calprofen, Brufen
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 and provided it is not a rash indicating any of the infections/disease in this document.
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 infections, 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 tonsilitis)
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.