

Health procedures

04.5

Poorly children

- If a child appears unwell during the day, for example has a raised temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach then the setting manager calls the parents and asks them to collect the child or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.
- If a child has a raised temperature, they are kept cool by removing top clothing, sponging their heads with cool water and kept away from draughts.
- A child's temperature is taken and checked regularly, using Fever Scans or other means i.e. ear thermometer.
- In an emergency, an ambulance is called and the parents are informed.
- Parents 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 are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours.
- After diarrhoea or vomiting, parents 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 Stacey Pre-School Co-ordinator 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.
- The setting manager has a list of notifiable diseases and contacts Public Health England (PHE) and Ofsted in the event of an outbreak.
- If staff suspect that a child who falls ill whilst in their care is suffering from a serious disease that may have been contracted abroad such as Ebola, immediate medical assessment is required. The setting manager or deputy calls NHS111 and informs parents.

HIV/AIDS procedure

HIV virus, like other 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.

- 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/slauicing clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and bagged for parents to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using mild disinfectant solution and mops; cloths used are disposed of with clinical waste.
- Tables and other furniture or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.
- Baby mouthing toys are kept clean and plastic toys cleaned in sterilising solution regularly.

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.

****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 and the Stacey Pre-School does not normally keep such medicine on the premises as we are not permitted to 'prescribe'.

The use of emergency medicine does not apply to children over 2 years old such that a baby or child under 2 may be given an appropriate dose of Calpol to reduce a sudden fever. 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.

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

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"> • 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.
	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A high temperature (fever) is 38°C 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.
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 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 “ <i>children should avoid rough play for a few days.</i> ” and to remain alert for “ <i>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.</i> ”
		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.

Head Lice or Nits	Yes – 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 – Non Prescription including Paracetamol or Ibuprofen based medicines. e.g. <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: Calpol, Disprol, Hedex, Medinol, Panadol, 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.

Further guidance

Medication Administration Record

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