



## **POLICY ON FEBRILE CONVULSIONS and PRE-EXISTING EPILEPSY**

### **Safeguarding and Welfare requirements: 3.42- 3.44**

*A febrile seizure or convulsion is a fit that occurs when a child has a fever. It can be quite common in early childhood and is not serious in most cases. During most seizures children's body become stiff, they lose consciousness and their arms and legs twitch. Some children may wet themselves. This is what's known as a tonic clonic seizure.*

We ask all parents/guardians to make the nursery aware if their child has previously suffered from a febrile convulsion or has one at home whilst they are attending the nursery.

If a child in our care suddenly has a Febrile Convulsion, we would make a note of the time it started and if it goes beyond a minute, another member of staff would then phone 999 for an ambulance giving the required information.

They would then contact the parents/ guardians and arrange to meet at the hospital if they work locally, or for the member of staff to stay with the child until the parents/guardians can return.

If parents/guardians work locally and can collect the child, especially if it is a baby, to save putting them into a more stressful situation, we will keep the child comfortable and monitor his/hers temperature, using cold flannels to keep the temperature down.

The person who dealt with the convulsion will write up a report in the Room's Accident Sheet so the parent/guardian knows the full situation when taking their child for a check-up at the hospital. This will need to be signed by parents/guardians and then a photocopy can be given to them for their information.

The Senior Person in the Room at the time, or the person who dealt with the situation, will type up a report and sign it along with the Manager or Deputy Manager. Three copies will be printed:

1. filed in the Issues Raised & Complaints File
2. for the parents
3. for the child's file

When the child returns to the nursery, we ask the parents/guardians to complete an Allergy Form stating the circumstances of the convulsion and any advisable measure noted by the doctors in case of a future occurrence.

All staff members are to be made aware of this.

Above all, when dealing with a Febrile convulsion, staff members will follow the First Aid training that they have been received.

### **Pre-Existing Epilepsy**

We would follow the above procedures but inform the ambulance staff of the medication and dosage the child is on. We would follow the advice given by the parents/guardians on their initial visit. As an inclusive nursery that promotes Equal Opportunities, we would like to reassure anyone accessing our setting that children will not be excluded due to any existing medical condition or one that may arise whilst in our care.

Febrile convulsion and pre-existing epilepsy policy. Written October 2013