

Safeguarding and Welfare requirements: 3.42

At Forest Park Day Nursery and Preschool, we work following the best practises that promote a healthy, clean and safe environment for both children and adults. The purpose of this policy is to prevent the spread of infection throughout the nursery and to ensure that children are supported should they fall ill.

Should a child become ill whilst at the nursery it is our policy is to ask the parent/guardian to collect their child. This is to ensure that the child has their needs met in the most appropriate setting and to protect other children and adults from any risk of infection.

We ask all Parents to keep their Key Person and the nursery up-to date on their child's medical needs and general well-being so that we can care for your child with the best of knowledge.

If a child falls ill whilst attending the nursery the following steps will be taken;

- Any staff member who suspect's a child is unwell or contagious must report this to a senior member of staff or the Manager without delay.
- The child's key person will make sure the child is as comfortable as possible away from other children.
- The child's key person, a senior staff member or the nursery manager (whoever is available or the most appropriate) will contact the parent/guardian to come to the nursery and take the child home. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, emergency contacts will be phoned.
- In the unlikely event that no contact can be made with parents or emergency contacts, the child will be cared for by one member of staff until the end of his/hers session.
- Parents/guardians will always be advised to seek medical advice from their doctor
- Parents/guardians will be required to keep children at home if they have an infectious disease or vomiting and diarrhoea (see full information below).
- Ofsted will be notified of any child suffering from a serious illness or notifiable disease. The nursery will also telephone the Health Protection Agency where relevant. For example, if there was a case of measles at the nursery.
- If the nursery hears from a parent that for example their child has chicken pox then the nursery will place up signs to inform parents of the illness and signs and symptoms to look out for.
- **PLEASE NOTE; we kindly ask all parents to understand that it is not our policy to admit any child who has been given Calpol or any form of liquid paracetamol on the morning of their session.**

We understand that sometimes children can pick up infections beyond a parents control. The list overleaf is to advise the minimum period that a child should be absent from nursery. This also applies to staff members, students and volunteers;

Illness or infection	Symptoms and information	Incubation/exclusion period
Sickness/diarrhoea	Children MUST be away from nursery a minimum of 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or Diarrhoea.	48 hours after the last bout of
Temperatures	A normal average temperature for a child is 36 to 38oc A temperature above or below can indicate a child is unwell. In such instances, parents/guardians will be asked to collect their child as soon as possible.	We would ask all parents/guardians to keep their child away from nursery when they have a temperature until they are well again. Please be advised that if

		<u>you give your child Calpol or another type of liquid paracetamol to control a temperature before the start of their session, we will ask you to take your child home.</u>
Conjunctivitis	Conjunctivitis is inflammation (swelling) of the layer of cells that covers the white part of the eye. It can result in a red/sore eye(s) and a sticky substance on the eye lashes. It is our policy that any child with a suspected case of conjunctivitis will be sent home and parents/guardians will be advised to seek medical advice.	It is our policy that children may return 24 hours after the medication has been prescribed and the first dose has been given.
Chicken Pox	Chicken Pox is one of the most common childhood illnesses. It causes a rash of red, itchy spots that turn into fluid-filled blisters. They then crust over to form scabs, which eventually drop off. All parents /guardians will be advised of any breakout of chicken pox as this can be imperative for pregnant women to be aware of.	Children who have chicken pox are asked to stay away from nursery until they are no longer infectious, which is until the last <u>blisters</u> has burst and crusted over. <u>This usually happens five or six days after the rash begins.</u> We ask all parents to be aware of safe incubation periods and call for advice before bringing their child back to nursery.
Shingles	Shingles is an infection of a nerve and the area of skin around it. It is caused by the herpes varicella-zoster virus, which also causes chicken pox, and therefore the symptoms are very similar. (you cannot catch shingles, but someone who has not had Chicken Pox could potentially develop this infection from a person with shingles so they must be fully crusted over)	5-7 days after the appearance of the rash , and all the scabs must be crusted over.
Impetigo	Impetigo is a highly contagious bacterial infection of surface layers of the skin, which causes sores and blisters. There are two types of impetigo; Bullous impetigo- which causes large, painless fluid-filled blisters. Non-bullous impetigo- which is more contagious than the other type, and causes sores that quickly rupture (burst) to leave a yellow-brown crust	48 hours after treatment , and only once the sores are dry and healed. The areas affected must be covered.
Measles	Measles is a highly infectious viral illness. The initial symptoms of measles include; -Cold like symptoms -Red eyes and sensitivity to light -Fever -Greyish white spots in the mouth and throat. After a few days a red-brown spotty rash will appear. It usually starts behind the ears, then it spreads around the neck and head, before spreading to the legs and the rest of the body. It can take up to two weeks for your immune system to fight it off. We urge all parents / guardians to seek medical advice immediately with any suspected case of measles.	Measles is infectious from 4 days before the onset of the rash, until 5 days after it appears. Exclusion from nursery should be; 5-7 days from the onset of the rash. The most effective way of preventing measles is the <u>measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine.</u> The first MMR vaccination should be given at around 13 months of age. Before a child starts school they should have a booster jab.

Rubella (German measles)	Symptoms of rubella include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A distinctive red-pink skin rash. - Swollen glands - Cold-like symptoms such as a sore head and a runny nose. Like chicken pox, with any outbreak of Rubella, we will put up a sign to notify anyone accessing the nursery as it can be potentially dangerous for pregnant women.	7 days from the appearance of the rash.
Mumps	Mumps is most recognisable by the painful swellings located at the side of the face under the ears. Other symptoms include headache, joint pain and a high temperature. Mumps is a contagious viral infection.	Until all the swelling has gone, average of 10 days .
Pertussis (whooping cough)	Is an infection of the lining of the airways. The main symptom is a hacking cough, which is often followed by a sharp intake of breath that sounds like a "whoop"	21 days from the onset of the cough
Slapped cheek syndrome	The most common symptom is the appearance of a distinctive bright red rash on the cheeks	2-3 days , or after seeking medical advice and being treated with over the counter medicine.
Hand, Foot and Mouth	A non-itchy rash that develops on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet. It can also cause ulcers in the mouth and make the child/adult feel generally unwell. Hand, Foot and Mouth disease is very contagious.	7-10 days after the symptoms have gone.
Thread Worm	Threadworms often go unnoticed, but a clear symptom is; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -intense itching around the genitals, particularly at night when the female worms are laying eggs. - a loss of appetite, weight loss and disturbed sleep can also be an indication. 	Up to 6 weeks and after the WHOLE family has been treated. Please seek more medical advice for a case of Threadworm.
Head lice	With any suspected case of head lice we ask that parents/guardians get treatment immediately and would administer at least one treatment before returning to nursery. Please be mindful of how quickly head lice can spread.	
Molluscum contagiosum	Is a viral infection that affects the skin. It is most common in children but can occur at any age. Usually the only symptom is a number of small, firm, raised pimples (spots) that develop on the skin. They not painful but can be itchy. It looks unpleasant but is generally harmless and will be often be resolved in a few months. The virus however can spread through close contact or touching the same objects as someone who is infected. If your child contracts this condition please make a member of management aware.	

If your child is suffering from Teething, and they need medication to control the pain, please discuss your individual circumstance with your child's Room Leader.

Information sourced from : <http://www.nhs.uk/Pages/HomePage.aspx>

Correct to date; 14th July 2015

Alternatively, parents/guardians can seek medical advice from their GP or call NHS direct on 111.