

Western Springs Primary School



Managing Sick Children

Approved by:	IEB (Mrs Marie Smith)	Date: 24/10/2019
Last reviewed on:	24/10/2019	
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Aim

This policy has been written in order to promote the good health of the children in our care, in line with safeguarding and welfare requirements, including those of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Policy

- It is our policy to provide a healthy environment for staff and children
- At all times, our staff will co-operate fully in implementing health initiatives
- We expect staff to take care of their own health
- We will ensure there is a qualified first aider on the premises at all times
- First Aid supplies are always fully stocked according to Ofsted requirements.

Western Springs Primary School will:-

- Do all it takes to support and care for children who become sick while attending School
- Ask parents to supply a range of contact numbers so that they can be contacted efficiently in the event of their child falling ill
- Keep these records updated regularly
- Train staff to recognise the signs of illness and to respond accordingly, in full consultation with the Head teacher
- Inform parents whenever an outbreak of an infectious disease occurs in the setting
- Where appropriate, inform parents of the symptoms to look out for in their own child and provided with information on where to seek further help and advice
- Ensure staff in the setting will follow strict hygiene routines at all times to minimise the spread of infection
- Follow prescribed advice from the Health Protection Agency in regards to necessary absence periods for any children suffering from infectious diseases

Policy and Procedures

- We recommend that no child attend the School while suffering from a communicable disease, the minimum exclusion period should be adhered to (Chart on main office wall details current disease information and recommendations).

- Although exposure of the children to a communicable disease is not in itself sufficient reason to require School exclusion, any child who has an external (home) contact with diphtheria, poliomyelitis, typhoid and paratyphoid fevers will be excluded.
- Coughs/colds do not normally require the child to be excluded but this depends on the severity and how the child is able to cope with the School routine. A child who is, or who appears to be unwell may be refused admission.

Children Showing Signs of Illness

If your child has not been feeling 100% at home but is not actually showing any signs of illness, please mention this to staff at drop-off and discuss best contact for that session.

Children who are ill

- It is at the Head teacher's discretion whether or not to allow a child into School when they are ill. This is the case even if a normal exclusion period has been observed or if a Doctor has advised attendance.
- The Head teacher will need to take into account the appearance and general behaviour of the child to assess whether they are well enough to participate in School activities. In addition, they will need to consider staff ratios as a child who is unwell will usually require one to one attention.
- The Head teacher will monitor regularly any child who seems unwell or who has recently recovered from an illness. This may result in parents being asked to collect them if they become unwell again.

Children who become ill

- The School will arrange for parents/carers to be contacted if their child becomes ill during session.
- A child who vomits or has diarrhoea will need to be collected immediately and kept off for a minimum of 48 hours after the last episode of this.
- Gloves will be worn by staff when dealing with any bodily fluids, including blood.
- Parents will be contacted if their child has a high temperature (101F/38C or above)
- To prevent the spread of conjunctivitis, suspected cases will be reported immediately to parents who will be requested to take their child to a doctor for treatment.

- Chicken Pox – Children need to be absent for a minimum period of 5 days in the case of Chicken Pox from the onset of the rash. Once spots have dried and scabbed over, the child may return to the setting.
- Rashes – parents will be contacted if their child develops a rash or suspected thrush. This will require a check by a Doctor and any advice should be followed.

Procedure for Serious Illness

Should the School staff or Head teacher identify a child as needing immediate medical attention, the emergency services will be contacted and parents will also be notified.

Where the child needs to go straight to hospital, a member of staff will accompany in the ambulance unless a parent/carer arrives in time for this purpose. Urgent parent/carer contact will be sought with any or all contact numbers provided being used in this instance.

Illness Outbreak

Western Springs Primary School will consult and follow guidance sought from the Health Protection Agency where an outbreak of an illness/disease occurs. In extreme cases, it may be deemed necessary to exclude children in order to control an outbreak, even where this is not listed in the normal exclusion policy.

Infectious, Communicable illness and conditions reporting.

If a child has an illness, we would request that parents contact School as soon as possible. Where it is deemed necessary, we will inform staff/parents. Where a notifiable outbreak occurs, we will inform the Health Protection Agency, RIDDOR (if appropriate) and Ofsted (particularly where pregnant staff member/parent could potentially be affected).

If a case of Headlice is found at the School, the child's parents/carers will be discreetly informed at the end of the session. Other parents will be notified that a case has been reported and that they should check their own children and treat where necessary.