



# Illness Policy 2024

## Points to Consider

When considering whether your child is well enough to attend Nursery it is important to consider the following:

- Young children are vulnerable and despite high standards of hygiene and they are at an increased susceptibility to catching a virus or infection.
- When young children are ill their need for individual attention intensifies. Our adult to child ratio does not allow for the one-to-one attention that a sick child requires.
- Please inform Nursery staff if your child is showing any signs of illness.

## Infectious Diseases:

Please see below the procedure if your child experiences some of the common childhood infections/illnesses. Please note this list is not exhaustive and up to date information can be found here:

[www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance\\_on\\_infection\\_control\\_in%20schools\\_poster.pdf](http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf)

- **Impetigo/Chicken Pox** If your child develops any of the above infections they remain contagious until the lesions are completely healed and your child should not attend.
- **Hand, Foot and Mouth** Exclusion from nursery applies if your child is not feeling well. Once your child feels better, they can return to nursery (there is no need to wait until the lesions have healed).
- **Head Lice** - If your child contracts head lice please inform the Nursery. Treatment should be started as soon as possible to eradicate the lice and ensure that an outbreak does not spread.

If head lice are spotted, a member of staff will inform the parent/carer upon collection of the child.

- **Sickness and Diarrhoea** - Any child suffering from sickness and diarrhoea must be symptom-free for a minimum period of 48 hours prior to returning to the Nursery. If your child has two loose nappies during the nursery session, you will be informed via phonecall/Famly that if there is a third, we will contact you to collect your child.
- **Conjunctivitis** - children with infectious conjunctivitis may still attend Nursery, but we recommend that they seek medical advice .

## Linskill Nursery

The Linskill Centre, Linskill Terrace, North Shields, Tyne and Wear, NE30 2AY  
T 0191 257 8000 F 0191 270 4259 E [nursery@linskill.org](mailto:nursery@linskill.org) W [www.linskill.org](http://www.linskill.org)  
Company limited by guarantee: 04827255 Registered Charity: 1119143





Children can attend nursery with the common cold as long as they are well enough to do so. Nursery is a very active and lively place to be and a poorly child cannot cope in that environment and is unlikely to be engaged and learn.

If you know your child has contracted **Covid-19** as diagnosed by a Lateral Flow Test device, if they are well enough, they may still attend nursery. However, we insist you advise the nursery as we may need to protect vulnerable staff/children with autoimmune deficiency by redeploying those staff.



If you suspect your child has contracted influenza (flu) please do

NOT bring your child into Nursery as it is highly contagious and it would be most unlikely they could cope with the nursery day.

If you are unsure of the severity of your child's illness, or they have any undiagnosed rashes please seek medical attention.

If your child appears ill in any way, they should not attend the Nursery.

### **Procedure For A Very High Temperature:**

- If a child is suspected of having a temperature the child's temperature is taken using an ear thermometer and then recorded on a High temperature form/Famly.
- If the child's temperature is above 38 C the Parent/Carer is called to advise them of their child's condition.
- The child is stripped down to their vest and nappy to try and reduce the temperature. The child's temperature will then be taken every 15 minutes.
- Permission will be sought via a telephone call to the parent/carer, to administer Calpol if temp hits 38 C. If we are unable to make contact, we will go ahead and administer Calpol if prior permission has been granted via the the Famly app records. **Under no circumstances will Calpol be given, until parents/carers are able to confirm that NO Calpol has been administered to that child within the last four hours.**
- In all cases where Calpol has been administered a medication form will be filled in and will be signed by the Parent/carer when the child is collected. Information regarding the reason for administering the Calpol, the time and dosage will be recorded on medication from.
- Then this is to be signed by staff and by parents/ carers when child is collected.
- The Parent/Carer will be asked to collect the child, but if this is not possible then they will be asked to telephone the nursery after 30 minutes. If there is no improvement after this period, even when Calpol has been administered,

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the Parent /Carer **must** collect their child.

- Children are not permitted to attend nursery if they require temperature reducing medication such as Calpol in the four hours before they are due to attend their session as the reason for the temperature needs to be ascertained by the parent/carer.
- Calpol or similar can be administered if this is for pain relief (as long as the child is well enough to manage the nursery session).
- Please note, as per the label on the bottle, Calpol must not be given to a child for more than 3 days. Therefore, if a child has been given Calpol on 3 consecutive days they will not be able to return to the nursery until they have been seen by a GP. The 3 days include any days when a child is not at the nursery. Please communicate with the nursery manager who will advise you when your child is able to return.

### **In an emergency**

In the case of an emergency, we will follow the standard emergency procedure as stated below:

### **Emergency Procedure**

In accordance with recognised first aid training, staff will:

- Assess situation- secure from danger and remove other people
- Treat illness- perform any first aid treatment necessary
- If necessary- call assistance [doctor or ambulance]
- Inform parents or the nominated emergency contact if the immediate parents or carers cannot be contacted.

If a child is taken to hospital they will be accompanied by a member of staff if a parent/carer is unable to be present.

### **Returning to Nursery**

- We welcome your child back to nursery as soon as they are well enough to do so, and where necessary, authorisation has been provided by a health professional.
- If your child suffers from an untreatable illness which may pose a risk to

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themselves, other children of staff, the parent/carer must inform the nursery in written form as soon as possible.

- If medication is needed, we can only administer it with parents/carers consent and where the medication is prescribed by a doctor and in the original packaging.
- If your child has been prescribed antibiotics, they must be absent from nursery for the first 24 hours after the first dose (as long as they are well enough to return).
- A medication form must be completed for any medication required - see Medication Policy.

**All medicines are kept out of children's reach at all times.**

All serious illnesses will be reported to Ofsted within 14 days as per the Welfare Requirements.

Review Date:

May 23

Next review May 24

Next review July 25

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