



## Child Sickness Policy & Procedures

Children who are unwell should not come into the nursery or must be collected from the nursery earlier than usual and this will be decided by the Nursery Manager or Deputy Manager.

Whilst we appreciate that it can be a difficult time for working parents we have to take into consideration the health and well-being of the child in question and all of the children who attend the nursery. It is imperative that Parents/Carers inform us if they suspect their child is feeling or presenting as unwell.

To help prevent the spread of illness staff with communicable diseases will not work in the nursery whilst they are infectious.

### **We will undertake the following procedures when a child becomes ill during their Nursery session:**

- the first priority is to inform the parents;
- then take the child's temperature;
- remove the child from the play room to staff room where the child will be made comfortable; a member of staff to stay with the child;
- take all possible steps to lower the temperature by tepid sponging, removal of outer garments and sips of water;
- their temperature will be monitored and noted every 30 minutes or until the parent/carer arrives;
- if a child has an infectious disease (see Table below), other parents will be informed by a dated notice on the front of the door; OFSTED will also be notified;
- If a parent is not available to collect their sick child, the Nursery will contact the emergency numbers.
- We will ensure the Nursery has a copy of Health Matters to inform parents about exclusion times.
- If a child needs hospitalisation, the Manager will contact the parent and give details of what has happened and ask them to go to the hospital. A member of staff, usually the key carer, will accompany the child to hospital.

### **Communicable Diseases**

Children should not attend Nursery if they are suffering from any of the following. Our recommended minimum exclusion days are detailed as follows, as per the Public Health England (PHE) Health Protection Agency.

The following list states only those conditions that require exclusion and is therefore not exhaustive. For further guidance, refer to "**Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings**", which can be found in the Nursery Offices and Staff Rooms.

**PHE South London Health Protection Team** can be contacted on: 0344 326 2052  
Floor 3C Skipton House, 80 London Road, London, SE1 6LH

Infection/Condition	Exclusion period
Chicken pox	Five days from onset of rash and all the blisters have crusted over.
Diarrhoea	Whilst symptomatic and for 48 hours after the last symptoms.
Diphtheria**	Exclusion is essential – return to Nursery is under direction from Health Protection Team (HPT).
Flu (influenza)	Until recovered.
German measles/Rubella**	Five days from onset of rash.
Hepatitis A	Seven days after onset of jaundice, or seven days after symptom onset if no jaundice.
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted/healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.
Measles	Four days from onset of rash and recovered.
Meningococcal meningitis, septicaemia or meningitis due to other bacteria (All**)	Until recovered.
Mumps**	Five days after onset of swelling.
Respiratory infections including coronavirus (COVID-19)	Children and young people should not attend if they have a high temperature and are unwell. Children and young people who have a positive test result for COVID-19 should not attend the setting for 3 days after the day of the test
Scabies	Can return after first treatment.
Scarlet fever**	Until 24 hours of appropriate antibiotic treatment completed.
Temperature	Until temperature is normal for 24 hours or on the advice of a doctor.
Tuberculosis**	As per instruction from HPT.
Vomiting	Whilst symptomatic and for 48 hours after the last symptoms.
Whooping cough	Two days from starting antibiotic treatment, or 21 days from onset of symptoms if no antibiotics.
<b>Coughs and colds</b> do not normally require exclusion unless they are severe or the child is distressed. Please seek medical advice if you are unsure or concerned.	
Exclusion does not normally apply to <b>Conjunctivitis</b> nor <b>Hand, foot and mouth</b> , however the HPT may consider exclusion in cases where a large number of children are affected.	
<b>** notifiable disease.</b>	

A copy of this policy can be obtained from the Nursery Offices or downloaded via our website:  
[www.acorns2oaksnurseries.net/home/policies](http://www.acorns2oaksnurseries.net/home/policies)

<b>Reviewed by:</b> Beverley Noble	<b>Signed:</b> 	<b>Date:</b> Sept 2022 Review: Sept 2023
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