

RATIONALE / INTENT:

To uphold the good health and safety of children and teachers by minimising accidents and the spread of infection while at the Centre.

Current Requirement of Reg 46 ECE Regulations 2008 and the Health (Infectious & Notifiable Diseases) Regulations 1966.

RESPONSIBILITY: All staff to practice and implement policy and to abide by this policy.

GUIDELINES:

- Owing to the risk of infection, we are unable to take care of sick children. Children should be kept at home if they have any of the following symptoms:
 - A high temperature (38°C or above).
 - An inflamed throat or eyes.
 - An unidentified rash; or
 - An upset stomach or diarrhea
- If a child is unable to attend the Centre, the Centre should be notified by 8.30 a.m. on the morning of non-attendance. A doctor's release statement must be presented if the illness is contagious.
- If a child becomes ill during the day, parents will be contacted and asked to immediately collect the child from the Centre. The child will be isolated from the other children until he/she is taken home, in the office. A sick child will remain under supervision while isolated from the other children and will always be in view of other teachers. To minimise the risk of other children becoming sick, sick children are required to be kept away from the centre for a minimum of 48 hours, after the last symptom.
- Acceptance of any child into care who may be unwell is only at the discretion of Centre Management. Any child, who displays symptoms such as no interest in activities or play, has little energy, is irritable and/or wanting to constantly sleep, will be assessed by staff, and may be considered not well enough to be at the centre. Be aware that teachers will only contact parents when they deem it necessary and it is in the best interest of the child. We expect full cooperation from our families during these times.
- A doctor's clearance certificate may be requested.
- If your child has rotavirus your child's he/she must be kept away from the centre for a minimum of 48 hours after all symptoms have ceased. This is to control the spread of the illness.
- Children with infectious diseases e.g. measles, school sores, chicken pox, conjunctivitis, giardia cannot return to the Centre until they have fully recovered. If children return to the Centre and staff are concerned that a child has not fully recovered from his/her illness the parents will be notified contacted and asked to obtain a doctor's clearance certificate. Ministry of Health Guidelines on infectious diseases will be followed if there is any doubt. These are on display throughout the centre.
- Parents are required to supply a copy of their Childs vaccination certificate upon enrolment.
- Paracetamol / Ibuprofen may be given to a child in some circumstances; however, this is at the discretion of the head teacher or management. This will be done on a case by case basis and only as agreed with parents/caregivers. Parents will sign the medication chart when they collect their child. Pamol and other such medication will not be administered for the purpose of disguising a fever as a child with a fever should not be at the centre.
- The Centre offers this policy for parent perusal on enrolment of all children. This policy is reviewed within our annual review cycle.