

## Promoting health and hygiene

### 2.2 Managing children with allergies, or who are sick or infectious

(Including reporting notifiable diseases)

#### Policy statement

We promote health in children through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic substance and through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections.

#### EYFS Key themes and commitments

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
1.2 Inclusive practice 1.4 Health and well-being	2.2 Parents as partners 2.4 Key person	3.2 Supporting every child	

#### Procedures for children with allergies

- When children at the setting any known allergies are recorded on the registration form.
- If a child has an allergy, a risk assessment form is completed to detail the following:
  - The allergen (i.e. the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc).
  - The nature of the allergic reactions e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc.

- What to do in case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how it is to be used (e.g. EpiPen).
- Control measures - such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen.
- Review.
- This form is kept in the child's personal file and a copy is displayed where staff can see it.
- Parents and/or health professionals train staff in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction.

### **Procedures for children who are sick or infectious**

- If children appear unwell during the day - have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach - the manager calls the parents and asks them to collect the child, or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing, sponging their heads with cool water, but kept away from draughts.
- Temperature is taken using a 'fever scan' kept near to the first aid box.
- In extreme cases of emergency the child should be taken to the nearest hospital and the parent informed.
- Parents are asked to take their child to the doctor before returning them to nursery; the nursery can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- After diarrhoea, parents are asked to keep children home for 48 hours or until a formed stool is passed.
- The setting has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is obtainable from [www.patient.co.uk](http://www.patient.co.uk) and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.

### *Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'*

- If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering from a notifiable disease under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency.

- When the setting becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the manager informs Ofsted and acts on any advice given by the Health Protection Agency.

#### *HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure*

- HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis, (A, B and C) are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults.
- Single use vinyl gloves and aprons are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Protective rubber gloves are used for cleaning/slucing clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is bagged for parents to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared **using mild disinfectant solution** and mops; cloths used are disposed of.
- Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.

#### *Nits and head lice & worms*

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition, although in exceptional cases a parent may be asked to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice/worms, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family in the case of worms and those affected if they are found to have head lice.

#### **Further guidance**

- Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings (DfES 2005)  
<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/1448-2005PDF-EN-02.pdf>

<b><u>Adopted by:</u></b>	<b><u>Signature:</u></b>	<b><u>Date:</u></b>	<b><u>Position:</u></b>
<b><i>H Budd</i></b>		<b><i>13/08/12</i></b>	<b><i>manager</i></b>
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