



## **Sickness / Illness and infectious diseases**

### **Policy statement: Illness and infectious diseases**

It is my policy to keep children safe while they are in my care, promote good health and take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection within my childcare setting and while I am off site.

I follow the requirements laid out in the EYFS framework and the Department for Education COVID 19 guidance.

### **Procedures (how I will put the statement into practice)**

In order to protect others who use my service and my own family, I require parents/carers to provide regular updates on the health of their family/household I will share updates about my own family's health with parents/carers.

I expect all parents/carers to take necessary steps and follow Government guidance to prevent the spread of COVID 19, for example complying with current guidance about who you can meet up with and appropriate social distancing. In addition, I will comply with this guidance to ensure the safety of my own family and those who access my childcare service. Failure to comply with Government guidance may result in termination of the contract.

If a child arrives at my setting with a disease or illness I believe to be infectious or that poses a risk to the other children in the setting or myself I will expect the child not to attend my setting until they have been well for the recommended period of time.

### **Sick Children - COVID-19**

Please see my Covid19 Policy for full details.

### **Other illnesses (including sickness and diarrhoea – 1 episode of diarrhoea)**

If a child in my setting becomes ill whilst in my care, or whom I believe has an infectious illness or disease I will;

- Keep the child away from the other children
- Contact the parents as agreed to arrange for the immediate collection of the child
- Ensure the child is excluded from my setting until they have been well for 48 hours, or in accordance with Health Authority guidelines. [Guidance on infection control in childcare settings](#)
- Any child on a course of medication such as antibiotics needs to stay away until full course has been finished. I will ask for a photo of the medication label so that I am confident the child has finished the full course before returning to my setting.
- In accordance with the contract agreed with parents I expect to be paid for the child's place even if they are excluded from my setting due to an illness or infectious disease
- I will inform the parents of the other children in my setting if there has been a diagnosed infectious disease.

- I am happy to administer prescription medication only if it is needed for a long term need such as Asthma / Diabetes. *Please see my Medicines Policy.*
- I will contact you if one of my own children is not well, inform you of the illness/symptoms and if I am able to work. This then allows you to make an informed decision as to whether to bring your child or not.

All children in my setting who are excluded due to having an illness or an infectious disease such as a severe cold or stomach upset will not be allowed to return until they have been **free from illness** for 48 hours after last episode. (If I feel that the other children in my setting are at risk then I will ask that your child stays away from the setting until I feel that they are able to return) This is in order to minimise the risk of the transmission of an infection to other children, myself or members of my household.

**High Temperatures** – Must be free from high temperatures for **48 hours** without the need to take temperature reducing medication during this period.

If I believe a child in my setting is suffering from a disease or illness which requires notification I will inform the parents/guardians of my concerns and act on advice given by Public Health England (details are on [Guidance on infection control in childcare settings](#))

I will also inform Ofsted of any action taken.

I make parents aware of my sickness exclusion policy and keep a record of the arrangements for the exclusion of a child should they become ill whilst in my setting.

In accordance with the contract agreed with parents I expect to be paid for the child's place even if they are excluded from my setting due to an illness or infectious disease.

If I, or one of the members of my family, have a confirmed infectious disease, I will inform parents as soon as I am able. In this instance, if I am not be able to offer my childminding service, I do not charge parents for the time the service is unavailable, as agreed in the contract.

I will inform the parents of the other children in my setting if a child I care for has a diagnosed infectious disease.

### Hygiene

Hygiene procedures are important at all times but particularly due to COVID 19. In my setting I take the following measures to help prevent germs spreading:

- Carry tissues with me at all times and use them to catch coughs or sneezes. I will bin the tissue, and wash my hands, or use an alcohol-based sanitiser gel.
- Wash my hands frequently for at least 20 seconds with soap and water. Use an alcohol-based sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- Display posters that show good hygiene and hand washing practice
- Avoid touching my eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

I also use a range of resources to promote hand washing and respiratory hygiene.

I ensure all adults and children in my setting are aware of good hand-washing procedures and respiratory hygiene and support them to carry out these procedures in line with Government guidance.

I ensure there is a supply of tissues and hand gel available for children to use when required, and I also help children to learn how to catch their sneezes and coughs.

I ensure that any animals on the premises are safe to be around children and do not pose a health risk. I ensure that pet food dishes are kept away from children.

Childminder's name	EMMA MARSHALL
Childminder's signature	
Date policy was updated	FEB 2024

*I will handle all data as required under GDPR Guidance*

**THIS POLICY WILL CHANGE FROM TIME TO TIME WITH NO NOTICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES**

EMMAS LITTLE MONKEYS