



Illness Policy

Version no: 0.5

Version Control:

Version Number	Purpose/Change	Author	Date
0.1	Initial draft – To be approved by Committee	Melanie Nadin	29/09/17
0.2	Review and grammar check.	Sarah Allen	30/09/17
0.3	Yearly review	Melanie Nadin	12/01/2019
0.4	Yearly review	Melanie Nadin	10/09/19
0.5	Yearly review & added to read COVID-19 policy alongside this one.	Melanie Nadin	02/01/21

Illness Policy

Please also read our **Coronavirus (Covid-19) Policy** alongside the **Illness Policy**

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(At Hixon Preschool we take health and safety very seriously. In light of the current outbreak of the coronavirus we have put together some information, all of which is based on Public Health England advice/Government guidelines and will be reviewed regularly as and when circumstances change.)

If a child falls ill whilst attending the session then the parent/carer will be contacted and asked to take their child home or to their G.P.

The child will be provided with a quiet area of the room where a paediatric first aid qualified member of staff will supervise them until their parent/carer arrives. To minimise the risk of infection to others if possible we will try to isolate the child in a separate room with two members of staff if ratios allow and ensure their needs are met. If a child has a temperature they are kept cool by removing top clothing and sponging their heads with cool water, but kept away from draughts. The child's temperature is taken, monitored and recorded using a digital thermometer.

If preschool staff are unable to contact parents/carers or named emergency contacts and the child's condition worsens (e.g. temperature continuing to rise above 40) 999 will be called. If the paramedics advise that the child needs to go to hospital a member of preschool staff will remain with them in the ambulance (to whichever hospital is dictated by the paramedics, most likely Stoke) and will remain with them there until a named contact arrives. At no point will the child be released to anyone other than those specified by the parents on the registration form. If family friends etc. arrive at preschool who aren't on the contact list they will of course be welcome to make their own way to the hospital and meet the child and staff member there if they wish.

Hygiene standards must be met regarding the provision of blankets, clothes and containers which are exposed to bodily fluids.

Parents are asked that they do not bring their child into preschool if they have a high temperature or are suffering from an illness that could spread to the other children. The setting can refuse admission to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.

Where a child has vomited or suffered diarrhea we ask the child remains at home until 48 has passed from the last episode. This allows any contamination risk to pass without affecting others and making sure the child is well enough to attend.

Cuts or open sores, whether on adults or children will need to be covered with a sticking plaster or other dressing.

If there is a case of head lice within the setting, a member of staff will make a general statement to parents within the setting at collection times and a general notice will be emailed out to all. No child, family or parent/carer will be individually identified and the child is welcome back in preschool once his or her hair has been treated, it is recommended that members of the family are treated too if they are found to have head lice. 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.

Parents/carers are encouraged to inform Hixon Preschool if their child has any infectious diseases, this way staff can notify other parents.

Please ensure that you ring preschool if your child is absent for 2 sessions or more.

We refer to the list of notifiable diseases as set out by the Health Protection Agency (gov.uk) and will inform Ofsted and the Environmental Health Agency within 14 days of the outbreak occurring. Their advice will be sought and action taken.

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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. Soiled clothing is bagged for parents to collect. Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using mild disinfectant and mops, any cloths used are disposed of. Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.

(see *infectious diseases policy* for more information)

Allergies

When parents start their children at preschool they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies and to record this on the child's registration form. If a child has an allergy, a risk assessment is completed detailing the following:

- the allergen e.g. nuts, eggs, bee stings etc.
- the nature of the allergic reaction 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. an EpiPen)
- control measures-such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen
- review

This form is to be kept in the child's personal file and a copy is displayed where staff can see it.

Preschool does not provide any nuts or nut products within the setting and parents are made aware of this (Healthy Eating Policy) so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in, for example to a party or in lunch boxes.

Date for review Jan 2021 unless new legislation comes in to effect