

MANAGING CHILDREN WHO ARE SICK, INFECTIOUS, OR WITH ALLERGIES



POLICY STATEMENT

Junior's Day Nursery aim to provide care for healthy children through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic trigger.

PROCEDURES FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE SICK OR INFECTIOUS

- We ask parents to call the nursery and speak with the manager before bringing a child that has been unwell to nursery, this includes loose bowel movements, vomiting and raised temperatures.
- If children appear unwell during the day – for example, if they have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – the nursery manager will call the parents and ask them to collect the child, or to send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf. Unwell children should not attend nursery.
- If a child has a temperature, they are closely monitored and temperature rechecked every 10 minutes until parents are able to collect.
- The child's temperature is taken using a forehead/inner ear thermometer, kept in the first aid box.
- If the child's temperature does not go down and is worryingly high, then Junior's Day Nursery may give them Calpol or another similar analgesic, after first obtaining verbal consent from the parent where possible. This is to reduce the risk of febrile convulsions, particularly for babies. Parents sign the medication record when they collect their child.
- In extreme cases of emergency, an ambulance is called and the parent informed.
- Parents may be asked to take their child to the doctor before returning them to the setting; Junior's Day Nursery can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease. Junior's Day Nursery reserve the right to request a letter from a GP before allowing a child to return to nursery.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, Junior's Day Nursery ask parents to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting.
- After vomiting and diarrhoea, Junior's Day Nursery ask parents keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.
- Some activities, such as sand and water play, and self-serve snacks where there is a risk of cross-contamination may be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.
- All equipment and resources that have come in to contact with an infectious child will be cleaned thoroughly to reduce the spread of infection. Please refer to Infection Control section in the Health and Safety policy for more information.
- If a contagious infection has been identified in the nursery, parents will be notified and informed of early signs of the illness.
- Junior's Day Nursery have a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The list (non-exhaustive) is based on advice from the Health Protection Agency www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.

Conjunctivitis	Child to be sent home, to return 24 hours after medication has been prescribed and given, returning only once the eyes are clear.
Chickenpox	Child to return once all spots have scabbed over.
Gastroenteritis, food poisoning, salmonellosis and dysentery	No return until authorised by a doctor.
Measles	Child to be sent home, exclusion for five to seven days from onset of rash.



Mumps	Return to nursery when all swelling has gone, approximately 5 days.
Pertussis (whooping cough)	5 days exclusion from starting antibiotic treatment. 21 days exclusion from onset of paroxysmal cough if no antibiotic treatment given.
Rubella (German measles)	4 days exclusion from appearance of rash.
Thread worm	Exclusion until treated.
Tonsillitis	Minimum of 48 hours after antibiotics.
Impetigo	Minimum exclusion until skin has completely healed.
Head lice	To be treated before attending nursery.
Scarlett fever	At least 48 hours after starting antibiotics.
Hand, Foot and Mouth	Child to recover from home if presenting as unwell and in discomfort.
Corona Virus	Please refer to our Covid 19 risk assessment and current guidance.

REPORTING OF 'NOTIFIABLE DISEASES'

- Junior's Day Nursery must be informed if a child has a contagious disease/illness in order to prevent the illness spreading however such information will be treated sensitively and in a confidential manner.
- If a child or adult is diagnosed as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the GP will report this to Public Health England.
- When Junior's Day Nursery become aware, or are formally informed of the notifiable disease, the nursery manager informs Ofsted and contacts Public Health England, and act[s] on any advice given.

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. At Junior's we:

- Wear single-use vinyl gloves and aprons when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Bag soiled clothing for parents to take home for cleaning.
- Clear spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit using mild disinfectant solution and mops; any cloths used are disposed of with the clinical waste.
- Clean any tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit using a disinfectant.
- Ensure that children do not share tooth brushes, which are also soaked weekly in sterilising solution.



NITS AND HEAD LICE

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition but we do ask parents to ensure treatment has been given before the child returns to nursery. In exceptional cases Junior's Day Nursery may ask a parent to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, Junior's Day Nursery inform all parents and ask them to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.
- If parents identifies a case of head lice, we ask parents to inform the nursery so that other parents can be alerted to check and treat their child's hair.
- Information for parents about head lice is readily available to parents at the nursery.

PROCEDURES FOR CHILDREN WITH ALLERGIES

At Junior's Day Nursery we are aware that children can have allergies which may cause severe allergic reactions. We will follow this policy to ensure allergic reactions are minimised or where possible prevented and staff are fully trained and aware of how to support a child who may be having an allergic reaction.

- When children start at the nursery Junior's Day Nursery ask their parents if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Registration Form. Parents will then be asked to fill out an Allergy risk assessment with staff. All staff are then made aware of children with allergies starting nursery and children are added to the allergy list which is displayed in the kitchen and classrooms.
- We encourage parents to notify the nursery immediately when they become aware that their child has developed an allergy or intolerance.
- If a child has an allergy, Junior's Day Nursery complete a risk assessment form to detail the following:
 1. The allergen (i.e. the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc).
 2. The nature of the allergic reactions (e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc).
 3. What to do in case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how it is to be used (e.g. EpiPen).
 4. Control measures - such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen.
 5. Review measures.
- This risk assessment form is kept in the child's personal file and a copy is displayed where staff can see it.
- A health care plan will also be completed.
- Staff are first aid trained are aware of the signs and symptoms of a possible allergic reaction in case of an unknown or first reaction in a child. These may include a rash or hives, nausea, stomach pain, diarrhoea, itchy skin, runny eyes, shortness of breath, chest pain, swelling of the mouth or tongue, swelling to the airways to the lungs, wheezing and anaphylaxis.
- The manager, nursery cook and parents will work together to ensure a child with specific food allergies does not receive food at nursery that may harm them. This may include designing an appropriate menu or substituting specific meals on the current nursery menu.
- All food prepared for a child with a specific food allergy will be prepared in an area where there is no chance of cross contamination and served on equipment that has not been in contact with this specific food type, e.g. nuts. If this cannot be guaranteed the parent must supply the food.
- Place mats with allergy info are used at all mealtimes to support staff in ensuring children with food allergies are only given safe foods.
- Generally, no nuts or nut products are used within the setting.
- Parents are made aware so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in, for example to a party.
- If a child has an allergic reaction e.g. to food, a bee sting, plant etc. a first aid trained member of staff will act quickly and administer the appropriate treatment. Parents must be informed immediately and it must be recorded in the incident book. All incidents will be recorded, shared and signed by parents at the earliest opportunity.
- If this treatment requires specialist treatment, e.g. an epipen, then at least two members of staff working directly with the child and the manager will receive specific medical training to be able to administer the treatment on an individual basis.
- If a child is unwell as a result of an allergic reaction they need to be cared for at home returning to nursery when they are well enough.
- If a child suffers a severe allergic reaction a member of staff will summon an ambulance immediately and the Hospitalisation procedure will be followed.





HOSPITALISATION

In an emergency, if a child is taken to hospital the following procedure will apply:

- Parent/emergency contacts informed immediately. In the event a parent/carer is unable to arrive in time/has not been contactable, a senior member of staff will accompany the child in the ambulance and stay with the child until the parent/carer is present.
- The senior member of staff will take with them the child's file including any medical/health/allergy information on record.
- In the event the parent/carer is unable to immediately reach the hospital, the member of staff will be in contact with the parent and a discussion will take place on what treatment they will/will not allow.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR CHILDREN WITH ALLERGIES AND DISABILITIES

- If necessary, our insurance will include children with any disability or allergy, but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below. For children suffering life threatening conditions, or requiring invasive treatments; written confirmation from our insurance provider must be obtained to extend the insurance.
- At all times Junior's Day Nursery ensure that the administration of medication is compliant with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

• Oral medication:

Asthma inhalers are now regarded as 'oral medication' by insurers and so documents do not need to be forwarded to our insurance provider. Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.

Junior's Day Nursery must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.

Junior's Day Nursery adhere to all risk assessment procedures for the correct storage and administration of the medication.

Junior's Day Nursery must have the parents or guardians prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file. It is not necessary to forward copy documents to our insurance provider.

• Life-saving medication and invasive treatments:

These include adrenaline injections (Epipens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc) or invasive treatments such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy).

Junior's Day Nursery must have:

a letter/care plan from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication if any is to be administered;

written consent from the parent or guardian allowing staff to administer medication; and

proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children's nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse.

Written confirmation that Junior's Day Nursery hold this information will first be sent to our insurance providers. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.

- Treatments, such as inhalers or Epipens are immediately accessible in an emergency.
- Key person for special needs children requiring assistance with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.:

Prior written consent must be obtained from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.

The key person must have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include receiving appropriate instructions from parents or guardians.

Copies of all letters relating to these children must first be sent to the insurance provider. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.

- If staff unsure about any aspect, Junior's Day Nursery contact the insurance provider for advice.

THIS POLICY WAS ADOPTED ON	SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE NURSERY	DATE FOR REVIEW
04/12/2020	Harriet O'Brien	December 2021