

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health

The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents and/or carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Child Protection

Providers must have and implement a policy, and procedures, to safeguard children.

6.2 Managing children who are sick, infectious, or with allergies

This policy was adopted by the St George's Board of Directors held on

Date: 7 JUNE 2021

Date of Next Review: JUNE 2022

Signed on behalf of St George's: [Signature]

Name of Signatory: ADRIAN CROWT

Role of Signatory: CHAIRMAN

Policy statement

We 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.

- If children appear unwell during the day – for example, if they have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – Staff will call the parents and ask them to collect the child, or to send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.
- 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 using a thermometer, kept in the first aid box.
- If the child's temperature does not go down and is worryingly high, then we may give them Calpol, 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 are asked to take their child to the doctor before returning them to the setting; we can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, we ask parents to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting.
- After diarrhoea, we ask parents keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.
- We have a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is obtainable from www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1194947358374 and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'

- 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 we become aware, or are formally informed of the notifiable disease, the Childcare Manager will inform Ofsted and contact Public Health England, and act on any advice given.
- During the COVID-19 outbreak, any child showing symptoms, such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; loss of taste or smell, the following sequence of actions need to be taken:
 - Child presents with symptoms; parents are requested to collect child and seek diagnosis from GP or take further advice from NHS 111.
 - Child's parents are requested to inform setting of outcome/diagnosis and keep child at home for the recommended exclusion period. For cases of suspected Coronavirus, staff and service users must adhere to current Government advice regarding self-exclusion even if no symptoms are present.
 - For confirmed cases of a notifiable disease and Coronavirus the setting must contact their local **Department for Education** as soon as possible for further guidance. The line manager will inform the directors and retain a confidential record.
 - Acting on the advice of the local **Department of Education**, the setting will either:
 - close for a set period and undertake a deep clean.
 - carry on as usual but also undertake a deep clean.
 - If a notifiable disease is confirmed, staff must inform the line manager immediately and Ofsted must be informed within 14 days. Cases of confirmed Coronavirus should be treated as a notifiable disease.
 - A deep clean is undertaken at the soonest opportunity following any illness outbreak. Hand hygiene messages are reinforced, and staff are vigilant to any further signs of infection.
 - The manager continues to liaise with the HPT as required and keeps a full record of children affected, how long they are away from the setting and the date on which they return.
 - Covid 19 – see further guidance.

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, 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.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition; although in exceptional cases we may ask a parent to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, we inform all parents and ask them to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.

Procedures for children with allergies

- When children start at the setting, we ask their parents if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Enrolment Form and our database.
- If a child has an allergy, we complete a care plan form 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 measures.
 - A care plan will also be completed.
- This care plan form is kept in the child's file in the main office and a copy in the child's room.
- 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.
- **Treatments, such as inhalers or Epipens are immediately accessible in an emergency.**

Further Guidance

Covid 19 – RIDDOR - <https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/riddor-reporting-coronavirus.htm#>