

Ill or Infectious Children's Policy



Approved by:	Nazmon Hannan (Director)
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Ill or Infectious Children's Policy

Policy Statement

At Jan Preschool and Nursery, we aim to provide a healthy and safe environment for all children. To achieve and maintain this, we must prevent cross-infection with viruses and bacteria by isolating and maintaining high cleaning standards. We also support good health by promoting healthy eating, identifying allergies, and preventing contact with allergenic triggers.

Infections are caused by microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites, otherwise known as germs. Germs are everywhere, and most do not cause infection and can even be beneficial. However, some germs can cause infections when they get into the wrong place, leading to symptoms such as fever and illness.

Procedures

Control of illness

When a child arrives at Jan Preschool and Nursery with any illness, the Manager must consider whether they are well enough to stay around other children, and the parent/carers will be advised accordingly. We will make every effort to stop the spread of infection within the setting, but we can only do this with the cooperation of parents. Here is a list of the most common infectious childhood ailments, and we have included the recommended exclusion period:

- Coughs, colds and sore throats – we appreciate that children often pick up cold viruses without being ill and accept they do not need to stay away from the setting. However, exclusion will be necessary if they have a raised temperature, continuous cough, or cannot eat, they must stay at home until they feel well.
- Diarrhoea - Any child with sickness or diarrhoea must be kept away from the setting for at least 48 hours after the last episode of sickness and diarrhoea.
- Temperatures – Any child with a raised temperature, even if not accompanied by any other symptoms, should be kept away until the temperature is down or has been seen by their GP and has been told it is safe to return to the setting.

Further information as to the exclusion period for children regarding Infection Control can be found at,

['Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and other Child Care Settings'](#).

Illness – action for staff

- If a child has a temperature, keep them cool by removing top clothing and giving them plenty of fluid to drink.
- Take the child's temperature using the digital thermometer kept in the First Aid box.



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- A normal temperature in babies and children is about 36.4C, but this can vary slightly from child to child.
- A high temperature is **38°C** or more. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/fever-in-children/>
- If the child's temperature is 38°C or more and does not go down, contact parents to collect their child to take home for resting or to give medicine.
- Ask parents to take their child to the doctor before returning them to the setting; we can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- If a child becomes unwell while they are at the setting, make them comfortable in a quiet place and keep them under observation, noting any changes in condition.
- Very sick children will not be left unattended. If there is a danger of vomiting, give a bowl or bucket.
- Contact the child's parent/carer and give them precise details of the child's condition. Discuss with them the best course of action, eg, to collect the child.
- If a parent/carer says that their child has been unwell but now seems to have recovered, ask for exact details.
- If a child should suddenly become seriously ill during the day, we will immediately seek medical attention. We will follow its Serious Accident and Emergency Procedures in the First Aid Policy and Procedure.

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'

- If a child or adult is diagnosed as suffering from a notifiable disease under the [Health Protection Legislation \(England\) Guidance 2010](#), the GP will report this to UK Health Security Agency.
- When we become aware, or are formally informed of the notifiable disease, I will notify LBWF Public Health team, inform Ofsted and act on any advice given.

Ongoing medical needs

For chronic illnesses, e.g. Asthma or children with special medical needs, we will administer, as necessary, any medication. A record will be made of the time, and parents will be asked to acknowledge this with their signature. This will be in accordance with the setting's Medication Policy.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis

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.



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Procedure

- 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 the entire 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 Registration Form.
- If a child has an allergy, we complete a risk assessment 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., Epi-Pen).
 - Control measures - such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen.
 - 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.
- Generally, no nuts or nut products are used within the setting.
- Our menu has all ingredients and allergens clearly written on them.