



MEYNELL
NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sick Child Policy

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| Committee: | - |
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| Level of Change: | - |
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EYFS Welfare Standards: Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare

During a child's school attendance, it is highly likely at some time or other illness or sickness will occur. This policy outlines procedures to ensure that a sick child is treated swiftly, with the minimum amount of stress for the child and parents. We will endeavour at all times to communicate effectively with parents and carers.

The school takes responsibility to explain clearly to parents our legal and moral approach when dealing with sickness or accidents with a child in our care. Likewise, it is expected that parents will adhere to specific procedures and practices detailed within this document.

Procedures

- In the event of a child being taken ill or running a high temperature of 38 degrees or above, parents will be contacted in the first instance to come and collect their child
 - In the event of a life-threatening episode such as; faints, fits or convulsions whilst in our care, an ambulance will be rung and the child will be taken to hospital and parents informed immediately.
 - Parents who wish staff to give a prescribed course of medicine will have to speak with a first aider and sign a form to give their permission and to understand the parents still have overall responsibility. Medicines should be labelled with the prescription label which will hold the child's details.
 - If an accident has occurred in the home parents are asked to inform staff the following day and complete a form detailing the injury and then sign the form.
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Head injuries

- If a child has sustained a bump to the head parents will be informed by telephone and given a head injury form detailing the accident.
 - If an injury to the head or face is more severe, parents will be contacted and advised to collect their child and seek medical attention, this is recorded on the child's accident record.
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Foreign objects

- The nursery will not remove foreign objects from the eyes, nose or ears. This is invasive and may cause a child to become distressed. Parents will be contacted and advised to seek medical intervention.
 - Occasionally children may get sand in their eyes during day to day activities. If this happens the event will be noted in the accident record, and parents advised to seek medical attention if eyes become irritated or painful.
 - If a child receives an insect sting that remains attached to the child, parents will be contacted to seek medical assistance.
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Foundation Stage responsibility

- In the event of infectious illnesses school will follow the exclusion periods outlined by the Health Protection Agency Guidance on infection control in schools and other settings. Children must not return to school until the quarantine period is finished
 - After a bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea parents will be called to collect their child immediately. Viruses stay active in bodily fluids and faeces for up to 2 days after symptoms occur so to minimise the risk of contamination to other children and staff an exclusion period of 48 hours after the last episode is required.
 - In the event of an accident or illness that requires medical treatment school will contact parents in the first instance, and wherever possible wait for the parent to accompany the child to hospital
 - Should the situation require urgent action the child will be transported to hospital immediately. School will follow the procedures for alerting the emergency services and a member of staff will accompany the child from school to hospital.
 - Bumps, grazes, slips and trips will be treated by a paediatric first aider within the provision and recorded in the accident book. Parents will be notified at the end of the school day if not before and will be required to sign to say they have received the information on the day of injury.
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Parental responsibility

- Parents are required to provide emergency contact telephone numbers, and those of a known person who can collect a child in their absence. This forms part of the statutory legal requirements for Ofsted registration.
- Parents are expected to inform school immediately of any change to contact numbers or addresses.

- Parents are requested to notify school if their child is diagnosed with a contagious illness. This is to ensure that we can notify parents of vulnerable children and pregnant women. We can also track any trends, and in exceptional circumstances we are required to inform the local health authority of any outbreaks of notifiable diseases.
- It is vital that parents inform school of any illnesses or diseases that may impact on the child's wellbeing whilst in our care. Staff need relevant information to ensure that they are best prepared should a child be taken ill. This includes the disclosure of medical history such as fits and convulsions.