Bolton College
Early Years &
Pre-School Centre

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Health, Illness & Infection Policy 2024-25

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1. Introduction

If your child has an illness, for example non-specific temperatures, measles, chickenpox, mumps, Covid etc, **they will not be admitted into the Early Years and Pre-School Centre until the infectious period has passed**. Parents /carers are asked not to bring children into the nursery if they are suffering from a sore throat or any infectious illness (further information on specific illnesses is available from staff).

2. Admittance

Under no circumstance can any parent, child, member of staff or visitor enter the nursery if they are exhibiting symptoms of Covid-19. This includes temperatures over 37.8 degrees, a new or persistent cough, lack of taste or smell, or if any member of their household are exhibiting these symptoms.

No child displaying a temperature above 37.8 degrees will be admitted to attend nursery.

Gastro-intestinal – that is anything causing vomiting or diarrhoea. Children will not be admitted to the Early Years and Pre-School Centre until motions have been properly formed for 48 hours.

Children prescribed antibiotics will not be admitted until the course of antibiotics are finished.

We have taken advice from the Environmental Health Department and Health Education on these matters and believe this is the best way to contain infections which can affect children and staff in the Early Years and Pre-School Centre. Ofsted and Health Services will be informed of notifiable diseases. We will be grateful for your support in this procedure which is aimed to reduce the number of infections your child may be subjected to.

Please do not ask us to admit a child who is not well.

- Parents are required to contact the nursery if their child will not be attending their session due to illness.
- If your child becomes ill during a session, you will be contacted to take your child home.
- If a child becomes unwell whilst attending the setting, a surgical facemask along with disposable gloves and apron will be worn by the supervising practitioner and the child will be kept away from the rest of their group until they can be collected.
- In the case that they are unable to contact you, staff will then use the alternative emergency contact details you have provided.

3. Illness within households

Parents / carers must inform the nursery if they or anyone in their household shows symptoms of illness

4. Hygiene

To prevent the spread of infection, staff in the Early Years and Pre- School Centre will ensure that the following good practices are observed:

Personal Hygiene

- Hand washing will take place upon arrival, before and after eating, before and after going outside, before going home and regularly throughout the day
- Hand washing: Wash hands regularly for 20 seconds at a time where possible with soap and water. Hands should be dried well using a single use paper towel which is disposed of after use. Hand sanitiser is also readily available at all entrances and staff and children will sanitise their hand on the way in and on the way out of nursery.
- Ensure good respiratory hygiene: promote the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach. Childcare staff will encourage children to shield their mouths when coughing.
- A large box of tissues is always available and children are encouraged to blow and wipe their noses when necessary and soiled tissues disposed of hygienically.
- Hygiene rules relating to bodily fluids are followed with care and all staff and volunteers are aware of how infections including HIV infection, can be transmitted. Fabrics contaminated with body fluids are thoroughly washed in hot water and laundered professionally.
- Gloves are always used when changing a child's nappy or soiled clothing.
- Spare laundered clothing is available if needed and we do ask parents to were possible bring spare clothes to nursery. We also have polythene bags available in which to wrap soiled garments.
- All equipment used for babies must be sterilised thoroughly before use. Dummies must be kept in labelled dummy drawers. Parents will be asked if they wish their child to have a nursery dummy should they lose their own dummy and will need to sign a consent form for this to happen.
- Floors and other surfaces are disinfected using cleaning products according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- All surfaces are cleaned daily with an appropriate cleaner.
- There are suitable hygienic nappy changing facilities
- The nursery has hand sanitising gel for all staff and visitors to use on entering and leaving the setting.
- Cleaning of resources and equipment: Hard surfaces, chairs and tables, hand contact points and resources will be cleaned frequently using antibacterial spray or wipes.
- Toys will be rotated so that some are out to enjoy while others are being cleaned and stored.
- Resources will thoroughly be cleaned daily.
- Plastics will be washed in the dishwasher where possible
- Materials including bed sheets and bibs will be sent to the laundry.
- Books and other toys will be cleaned with antibacterial spray or wipes.
- We strongly encourage parents to adopt the same hygiene routines as the nursery to maximise children's good health and wellbeing.

5. Food

The Early Years and Pre-School Centre promotes and helps parents/ carers to establish and maintain healthy eating habits for children.

- Food Hygiene regulations are rigorously followed and relevant staff are qualified to Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering.
- Lunches and snacks will be provided by the setting but parents can opt to bring their own healthy cold lunch/snacks (a list of items permitted to be brought into nursery with regards to healthy snacks/lunches will be shared with the parents before attending). All food and drink items provided must be fully labelled with the child's name, date and correctly stored
- The nursery displays a full menu for parents/ carers to check if their child may be sensitive to any food offered by the setting.
- The setting keeps records which are constantly updated with any dietary requirements / allergies in the food preparation areas for staff to follow.
- When cooking with children as an activity, the staff will ensure the children wash their hands and wear aprons and generally provide healthy, wholesome food, promoting and extending the children's understanding of a healthy diet and new experiences of food.
- Fresh drinking water and milk is supplied throughout the day for each child in the setting.
- Baby's formula milk is permitted and where possible provided in store bought sealed bottles or cartons.
- When the formula powder is brought to nursery it needs to be sealed and unopened and kept at nursery for making fresh feeds whilst on site and shall not be taken home and brought back.
- The formula will be clearly labelled and safely stored as we will have designated kitchen cupboards. All bottles will be sterilised at nursery before the pouring and preparing of each bottle, gloves will be worn when making up the bottles and whilst feeding.

Any parents that are breastfeeding will be permitted access through the main door and will go straight into the breastfeeding room and their baby will be brought to them. Parents will be asked to sanitise on entry and exit and will alert staff when finished feeding. Staff will then collect the baby from the parent in the breastfeeding room and return them to their room for remainder of the session. Parent will then leave via the entrance; the breast-feeding room will then be wiped down.

Ofsted will be notified of any cases where two or more children are affected by food poisoning. Notification will take place within 14 days of the incident being reported.

6. Risk Assessments & Daily Routines

The Early Years and Pre-School Centre have a range of risk assessments and routines carried out by manager and deputies which ensure the environment is clean and safe for children and staff.

There are risk assessments for:

- Food Preparation Area
- Bathroom and Toilets
- Outdoor Play Area
- Nursery foyer

- Main Room in the Nursery
- Activities undertaken
- Field Trips
- College Sports Hall & Atrium
- Infection control for nurseries

Staff Rotas and Routines include:

- Nappy Changing
- Toileting
- Food Preparation
- Feeding for Babies
- Snack and Lunch Times

7. Accidents / Injury

If an accident /injury happens to your child whilst they are attending at the Early Years and Pre-School Centre, all staff are qualified in Paediatric First Aid and they can administer treatment. Parents / carers will have been asked for their consent prior to the admission of their child to the setting, to emergency medical treatment by a suitably qualified person, should there be an accident.

Any accident occurring at the Early Years and Pre-School Centre is recorded in the Accident Book, which parents/ carers will be asked to sign and comment upon. Should a child have an accident that results in a head injury then the parent/carer will be contacted and informed as soon as possible via telephone.

If a serious accident, injury or death of a child occurs at the setting, Ofsted and the local Safeguarding Children Partnership will be contacted within 14 days of the incident occurring.