

CHILD ILLNESS POLICY

Rational:

At Bright Babes, it is our job to maintain the wellbeing of our children by creating a safe and healthy environment and acting urgently and effectively to ensure health and well-being of all children.

Principles:

At our centre, we will protect all children and staff from cross infection by understanding the following procedures:

Our Definition of Sick Children:

- A high temperature (38+)
- Loss of appetite, listless and clingy (out of normal range)
- More than one loose bowel movement which smells acidic
- Vomiting (not milk burps or reflux)
- Sore eyes with discharge
- Pulling on ears and generally unwell
- High pitched distressed crying
- Convulsions (along with high temperature)
- Signs of infectious diseases such as chicken pox, measles, influenza
- Who are not fully recovered from any of the above
- Who management believe do not have the ability to participate fully in the programme even though not contagious to other children.

Teacher responsibilities:

- Contact parents if there are concerns about a child's health and may ask them to take the child home.
- Children who are unwell will rest in a well-ventilated and warm room as distant as possible from other children, until they are collected.
- Endeavour to make the child comfortable and emotionally supported.
- First aid will be administered where required *
- Illness will be recorded in our accident/illness register and will be signed by parent upon collection of child, the white slip will be given to parent.
- Inform parents of details, such as any changes in behaviour, symptoms, temperature recordings, food and drink consumption, any authorised medication given.
- Suggest that the parent consults a G.P for diagnosis and treatment, as needed.
- Launder all bedding after use.

*** Please note that Pamol/Paracetamol/ibuprofen are not kept on the premises for general use. The medication can only be administered if written consent has been given, and is labelled with the child's name and a recent date.**

To reduce a fever without medication we will remove extra clothing, but if shivering begins we will put a layer of clothing back on as shivering is an attempt by the body to raise the temperature. We will encourage the child to drink cool fluids to avoid dehydration, and to rest as activity can increase the body temperature.

Parent responsibilities:

- To provide up to date contact details
- Discuss concerns about children's health with teachers.
- Let teachers know if you have administered medicine to your child during the night or prior to arriving at the centre.
- Collect your child within one hour once notified they are too unwell to stay.
- Acknowledge and sign the accident/illness book, taking your white slip.
- Seek medical advice from a professional in case of infectious disease notify centre as soon as possible.
- Allow your child time to recover before returning to the centre.

Procedures:

Staff will use gloves and bleach/disinfectant when there is any concern about stopping the transmission of infectious diseases.

Any notifiable diseases are notified to the Ministry of health.

Staff and parents are informed of health warnings and how to recognise signs of any illnesses for which we receive Ministry notifications.

Medicines may only be given with written authority of a parent or caregiver or in an emergency, by a qualified doctor or ambulance staff.

We have medicine policies and procedures in place and will ensure that staff understand them and follow them.

Alignment with other Policies:

- Centre Exclusion Policy
- Child Medication Policy

Relevant Background (including legislation/regulation references)

Licensing Criteria 2008, Health and Safety, Child Health and Well-being Documentation required:

- HS25. HS27: A record of all injuries and illness that occur at the service. Records include the child's name, date, time and description of the incident, actions taken and by whom and evidence of parental knowledge of the incident. Copies of current first aid (or medical practising) certificates for adults counting towards the qualification requirement.

Licensing Criteria 2008, Health and Safety, Hazards and Outings documentation required:

- PF27: There is space (away from where food is stored, prepared, or eaten) where a sick child can:
 - Be temporarily kept at a safe distance from other children (to prevent cross infection)
 - Lie down comfortably
 - Be supervised.

- HS26: All practicable steps are taken to ensure that children do not come into contact with any person (adult of child) on the premises who is suffering from a disease or condition likely to be passed on to children and likely to have a detrimental effect on them.

Policy Review Schedule

Review every three years or when there is a significant change in the area of the policy topic.

Introduction Date:				
Next review date:				
Comment:				
Consultation Undertaken:				