



## **Sickness Policy**

### **Managing children who are sick, infectious, or who suffer with allergies**

At St Augustine's Nursery, we aim to care for your children in the best way possible and part of that is ensuring that we limit the spread of illnesses and/or diseases.

This policy outlines the steps we will take if your child is unwell whilst in our care.

- If your child is unwell, we will call you and ask you to collect your child from the nursery as soon as possible.
- Temperatures are taken with the thermometer located in the First Aid box.
- We will keep any children with a temperature cool by removing their top clothing, ensuring they drink plenty of fluids and cooling their heads with a flannel/sponge until you arrive to collect them.
- In an emergency, we will take your child to the nearest hospital and advise you of the location so you can make your way there.

#### *Returning to Nursery*

- We ask that you do not return your child to the nursery until 48 hours after they have started a course of anti-biotics or 48 hours after their last episode of vomiting/diarrhoea. If you are unsure if your child is well enough, please take them to the GP before they return to the nursery.
- We ask you not to return your child to the nursery if they still have a temperature. If your child has a temperature on their return, we will call you and ask you to collect them as soon as possible.

#### *Notifiable Diseases/Excludable Conditions*

- If your child is suffering with any of the following notifiable diseases/excludable conditions then the guidance for the length of time to keep your child at home are provided here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in->

[schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/children-and-young-people-settings-tools-and-resources](#)

- If you or your child are suffering with a notifiable disease, we ask you to stay at home with this guidance in mind.
- It is your GP's responsibility to report anyone suffering from a notifiable disease under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988 to the Health Protection Agency.
- When the nursery becomes aware, or is formally advised, of the notifiable disease, the manager will inform Ofsted and will act on the advice given by the Health Protection Agency.

## **Procedures**

### *HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis Procedure*

- The HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis A, B and C, is spread through bodily fluids (blood, urine, faeces or vomit). Hygiene precautions for dealing with bodily fluids are the same whether you are a child or an adult.
- Single use vinyl gloves and aprons are worn when changing your child's nappy, pants and clothing that have come into contact with bodily fluids.
- Protective rubber gloves are used for cleaning/slucing clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and placed in a bag for you to collect.
- Spills of bodily fluids are cleaned using mild disinfectant solution and mop; cloths used are disposed of.
- Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys that have come into contact with any bodily fluids are cleaned using a disinfectant.

### *Allergies Procedure*

- You will be asked if your child suffers from any known allergies when your child joins the nursery and this is recorded on the registration form.
- If your child has an allergy, a risk assessment form is completed 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 reaction (e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc.)

- What to do in case of an allergic reaction, 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.

This form is kept in Medicine book and details of the allergy are displayed where staff can see it.

- We will ask you to train staff in how to administer any special medication in the event of an allergic reaction.
- We have a no nuts or nut products policy. All parents are made aware of this so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in (e.g. to a party).

### *Insurance Requirements of Children with Allergies*

Our insurance will automatically include children with any allergy but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below. For children suffering with life-threatening conditions or requiring invasive treatments, we will need written confirmation from your insurance provider in order for us to extend our insurance cover. Please discuss this with us at the time your child joins the nursery.

### *Administering Medication/Invasive Treatments*

The administration of medication must be compliant with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and follow procedures based on advice given in Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings (DfES 2005). We will administer medication as part of maintaining your child's health and well-being or when they are recovering from an illness.

Children taking prescribed medication must be well enough to attend the nursery.

### *Oral Medication*

- Oral medications (such as asthma inhalers) must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.
- We must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer the medication.

- We will ensure that the medication is stored and administered in the correct way as outlined in the risk assessment.
- We will ask you (parent/guardian) provide prior written consent, which will be kept on file.

### *Life-Saving Medication, Invasive Treatments*

Adrenaline injections (Epipens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs, etc.) or invasive treatments such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy).

- We must be provided with:
  - a letter from your child's GP/consultant stating the condition and what medication, if any, is to be administered;
  - written consent from you (parent/guardian) allowing staff to administer medication; and
  - proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children's nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse.
- We will send all three letters to the Pre-School Learning Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.

Key person for children with special educational needs - children requiring help with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.

We must be provided with:

- Written consent from you (parent/guardian) to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by your child's GP.
- Key person will have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include those who have received appropriate instructions from parents or guardians, or who have qualifications.
- We will send all letters and relevant documents to the Pre-school Learning Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.

**Further guidance:**

- Covid-19: guidance and support (<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>)
- Illness and your child’s education (<https://www.gov.uk/illness-child-education>)
- Preschool Learning Alliance (<https://www.eyalliance.org.uk/insurance>)
- Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings (DfES 2005)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of

**St. Augustine’s Nursery**

Held on (date)

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee/Proprietor

Role of signatory (e.g. chairperson etc.)

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