



Orchard Day Nursery  
Queens Park Road  
Brighton  
BN2 0GL

## **Sickness and illness policy**

Children should not be left at nursery if they are unwell. If a child is unwell then they will prefer to be at home with their parents/carers rather than at nursery with their peers. We will follow these procedures to ensure the welfare of all children within the nursery.

- If a child becomes ill during the nursery day, their parents/carers will be contacted and asked to pick up their child as soon as possible. During this time the child will be cared for in a quiet, calm area with their key person.
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as an eye/ear infection or sickness and diarrhoea, they should not return to nursery until they have been clear for at least 48 hours.
- It is vital that we follow the advice given to us by our health protection agency and exclude specific contagious conditions, e.g sickness and diarrhoea, conjunctivitis and chicken pox to protect other children in the nursery. Illnesses of this nature are very contagious and it is exceedingly unfair to expose other children to the risk of infection.
- If a contagious infection is identified in the nursery, parents will be informed to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness. All equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child will be cleaned and sterilised thoroughly to reduce spread of infection.
- It is important that children are not subjected to the rigours of the nursery day, which requires socializing with other children and being part of a group setting, when they have first become ill and require a course of anti-biotics. Our policy, therefore is to exclude children on antibiotics for the first 48 hours of the course (unless this is part of an ongoing care plan to treat individual medical conditions e.g Asthma and the child is not unwell).
- The nursery has the right to refuse admission of a child who is unwell. This decision will be taken by the manager/deputy and is non-negotiable.
- Information/posters about head lice are readily available and all parents are requested to regularly check their child's hair. If a parent finds their child has head lice we would be grateful if they could treat their child's hair and inform the nursery so that other parents can be alerted.

### **Meningitis procedure**

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has meningitis, the nursery manager/deputy should contact the infection control (IC) nurse for their area: Dr Angela Iverson 01273 403591 and also Ofsted. The IC nurse will give guidance and

support in each individual case. If parents do not inform the nursery, we will be contacted directly by the IC nurse and the appropriate support will be given.

### **Transporting children to hospital procedure**

- If the sickness is severe, call for an ambulance immediately. DO NOT attempt to transport the sick child in your own vehicle.
- Whilst waiting for an ambulance, contact the parents and arrange for them to meet you at the hospital.
- A senior member of staff must accompany the child and collect together registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter.
- Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance.