

Managing children who are sick, infectious, or with allergies



Policy statement

Sawston Nursery aim to provide care for healthy children through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic trigger.

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

- If children appear unwell during the day – for example, if they have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach one of our team working with the child or the manager will call the parents and ask them to collect the child, or to send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing and ensuring they are as comfortable as possible.
- The child's temperature is taken using a thermometer, kept in the foyer with the admin staff.
- If the child's temperature does not go down and is worryingly high, then we may give them Calpol with consent from the parent via telephone and confirmed through an e-mail. This is to reduce the risk of febrile convulsions, particularly for babies. Parents sign the medication record when they collect their child.
- In extreme cases of emergency, an ambulance is called and the parent informed.
- Parents are asked to take their child to the doctor before returning them to the setting; Sawston Nursery can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, we ask parents to keep them at **home for 48 hours before returning to the setting.**
- After diarrhoea, we ask parents keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.
- Some activities, such as sand and water play, and self-serve snacks where there is a risk of cross-contamination may be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.
- Sawston Nursery have a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is obtainable from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-9-managing-specific-infectious-diseases>
- In addition, includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'

- If a child or adult is diagnosed as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the GP will report this to Public Health England.
- When we become aware, or are formally informed of the notifiable disease, the manager of the nursery will notify Ofsted and contacts Public Health England, and will act on any advice given.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure

HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis A, B and C, are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults.

- Wear single-use vinyl gloves and aprons when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Bag soiled clothing for parents to take home for cleaning.
- Clear spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit using mild disinfectant solution and mops; any cloths used are disposed of with the clinical waste.
- Clean any tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit using a disinfectant.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition; although in exceptional cases we may ask a parent to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, we will inform all parents ask them to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.

Procedures for children with allergies

- When children start at the setting, we ask their parents if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Registration Form and it is the parents responsibility to inform the nursery of any changes which **MUST** be made in writing.
- Before staff give any child food or drink, they will check the dietary requirements list, which states all allergies, intolerances, food preferences and cultural dietary needs.
- During snack and meal times, staff will ensure all children with known allergies or dietary needs are supervised and the sharing of food is discouraged.
- If a child has an allergy, the Room Leader will complete a health care form 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 reactions (e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc).
 - What to do in case of allergic reactions, 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 measures.
- This health care plan is kept in the child's personal file and a copy is displayed where staff members can see it in the classroom and the staff room.
- No nuts or nut products are used within the setting.
- Parents are made aware so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in, for example to a party.
- Where treats are brought into the nursery by parents to share with children such as a birthday cake which does not state the ingredients used, this will be handed out at the end of a session so that each parent can decide if it suitable for their child to eat.

Requirements for children with allergies and disabilities

- At all times Sawston Nursery will ensure that the administration of medication is compliant with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Oral medication:
 - Asthma inhalers are now regarded as 'oral medication' and therefore oral medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.
 - Sawston Nursery must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.
 - We will adhere to all health care plan procedures and protocols for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
 - We must have the parents or guardians prior written consent. One copy should be held with the medication and a copy on the child's file.
 - Life-saving medication and invasive treatments:

These include 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).
- Sawston Nursery must have:
 - a letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication if any is to be administered;
 - written consent from the parent or guardian allowing the 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.
- Key person for special needs children requiring assistance with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.:
 - Prior written consent must be obtained from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
 - The key person must have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include receiving appropriate instructions from parents or guardians.
 - In the event of a serious incident, accident or illness occurring then the parent will be contacted immediately along with a medical professional and the appropriate action taken. In the unlikely event of the parent not being available the room leader or senior member of staff will assume charge and if necessary accompany the child to hospital along with all relevant details. Ofsted are to be informed, by the Head of Nursery, of a serious incident in accordance with the Statutory Framework of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.

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This policy was adopted by
On

Sawston Nursery

(name of provider)

29th September 2016

(date)

(Updated September 2017)
