



### **Statutory framework requirement: Safeguarding and welfare - Health**

The provider must promote the good health of children, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action when they are ill.

## **Managing children with allergies or who are sick or infectious policy**

### **Policy statement**

Hartfield Playschool provides care for healthy children and promotes health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic substance and through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections.

### **Covid-19 and subsequent pandemics**

### **Procedures for children who are sick or infectious**

- If children appear unwell during the day – have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – the Early Years Manager or key person calls the parents and asks them to collect the child, or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing but kept away from draughts.
- Temperature is taken using a thermometer kept in the first aid box.
- In extreme cases of emergency an ambulance will be called and the parent informed.
- To protect staff members, children attending and parents, Hartfield Playschool can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting.
- After diarrhoea and/or sickness, parents are asked to keep children home for 48 hours from the last episode.
- The setting has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is obtainable from [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/789369/Exclusion\\_table.pdf?\\_ga=2.55716008.208902561.1566927151-398131318.1556387472](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/789369/Exclusion_table.pdf?_ga=2.55716008.208902561.1566927151-398131318.1556387472) and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.
- The setting have found it necessary to adjust some of the excludable diseases due to the fact that other children, parents and staff have become very unwell due to catching these illnesses. These include:
  - Conjunctivitis: please remain at home if there is any discharge from the eyes.



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- Hand, foot and mouth: you are most likely to give it to others in the first 5 days after symptoms start. Please remain at home while the child is unwell.
- Slapped cheek: please remain at home if the child has a temperature or is unwell. Please notify us as soon you think your child has slapped cheek as it can be very serious for pregnant women, thank you.

### **Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'**

- If a child or adult is diagnosed to be suffering from a notifiable disease under the Public Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency.
- When the setting becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the Early Years Manager informs Ofsted and acts on any advice given by the Health Protection Agency.

### **HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure**

- HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis, (A, B and C) are spread through bodily fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with bodily fluids are the same for all children and adults.
- Single-use vinyl gloves are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Single-use vinyl gloves are used for cleaning/slucing clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is bagged for parents to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces and vomit are cleared using disinfectant solution. Any cloths used are disposed of in the outside green waste bin.
- Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.

### **Nits and head lice**

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



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## **Procedures for children with allergies**

- When parents start their children at the Hartfield Playschool, they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the registration form.
- If a child has an allergy, as part of the settling in process, the Key Person will ask the parents for more details, to include:
  - 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.
- This form is kept in the child's personal file in the Contact's Folder in the Office. A summary of all children with allergies including a photograph of the child is displayed where staff can see it, in the kitchen and also in the First Aid box in the Main Room.
- Parents train staff in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction.
- Other parents are made aware of the allergies that some children at Playschool have and discouraged from including this type of food in Snacks and Lunchboxes. A Reminder is also posted on the Lunchbox/Snack trolley.
- We are a no nut setting and endeavour to not allow any nuts or nut products within the setting.
- Staff sit with children at lunch time to ensure that they do not share their lunches with each other.

**At all times the administration of medication must be compliant with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (2012), our 'Administering Medicines' policy and follow procedures based on advice given in 'Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings' (DfES 2005)**

## **Oral Medication**

Asthma inhalers are now regarded as "oral medication" by insurers.



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- Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP and have manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.
- The parents must provide clear instructions (which are noted on the medical consent form) on how to administer such medication.
- The setting must have the parents or guardians prior written consent. This consent is kept in the child's 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 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 staff to administer medication

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

- Prior written consent from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
- Key person to have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include those who have received appropriate instructions from parents or guardians, or who have qualifications.

This policy was reviewed by the Early Years Manager Debbie Arnett in line with the 'Essential policies and procedures for the EYFS' by Preschool Learning Alliance

This policy was adopted by Hartfield Playschool staff and Committee in February 2013.

Reviewed: January 2014

Reviewed: July 2015

Review Date: July 2016

Reviewed: March 2017



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Reviewed and updated: September 2019

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