



SICKNESS & COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL POLICY

Purpose: To prevent the spread of communicable diseases at nursery and to eliminate, if not minimize, the incidence and severity of each ailment or illness. To outline the policies and procedures the nursery has in place to manage sickness absence and returning to nursery.

Definitions:

Sickness: the condition of being ill or vomiting

Illness: a disease or period of sickness affecting the body or mind.

Bacterial Infection: An infection caused by bacteria. The growth of many disease-causing bacteria can be halted by the use of antibiotics.

Viral Infection: Infection caused by the presence of a virus in the body.

Policy Statement & Procedures:

This policy aims to –

- ensure that the health and wellbeing of children and staff is taken seriously and that all precautions are taken to look after them;
- provide procedures to be followed in regard to sickness absence, including the reporting, recording and management of sickness absence in a fair and consistent manner;
- provide guidance around supporting parents, children and staff while they are absent and to help them to return to, and remain at nursery, wherever possible

This policy applies equally to staff and children.

- Fever reducers (such as Adol, Calpol, Advil, and Panadol) or Ibuprofen (such as Nurofen, Brufen,) should not be given to your child, or taken by staff prior to arriving at nursery, as this will just mask the signs and symptoms of any underlying illness and the need to give it, indicates that you/your child is still not well enough to attend.

- You/your child must be at least 24 hours **free** of fever (38° Celsius or above), without the use of the fever reducers mentioned above, before reporting back to nursery.
- All sick children/staff who have been diagnosed with communicable diseases and have been absent for two or more consecutive weekdays, should report back to nursery with a doctor's note stating that they are fit to attend and cannot pass on any viruses or bacteria.
- All children are assessed daily, from head to toe, by our nurse and early collection may be requested for children that are deemed unwell.

When to stay at home

Parents are requested to keep their children at home until they are fully recovered from the illnesses, ailments or conditions detailed below. If they are displaying any of the below symptoms, our nurse will ask for you to collect your child and take them home. This is in the best interests of the entire nursery community in promoting health and well being for all –

1. High Temperature: 38.0 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) indicates a fever which could be an underlying symptom of a certain condition, most often an infection, (viral or bacterial).
2. Cold – Please do not bring your child to nursery if they have a runny nose, showing green mucus as this indicates that an infection is still present. Colds are manifested by sneezing, a stuffy or runny nose, sore throat, coughing, head aches and body aches. If symptoms last more than 2 weeks, please visit your family doctor.
3. Eye Discharge - Any child with white or yellow eye discharge, eye pain, or redness in the eye, eyelid or skin surrounding the eye should remain at home and be checked by a physician.
4. Uncontrollable Cough
5. Rash - A child with an unidentified rash should remain at home and be cleared by a physician prior to reporting back to nursery. A rash can often precede common infectious diseases like Measles, Hand Foot and Mouth Disease, and Chicken Pox.
6. Vomiting - Recurring upset stomach (more than 2 episodes) or vomiting accompanied by a fever.
7. Frequent loose stools – Frequent diarrhoea or very loose stools, not related to food or when associated with another illness.
8. Swollen Throat – evidence or complaints of throat discomfort might be easily spread to other children by means of coughing, sneezing and hand shaking.
9. Head Lice – untreated head lice can easily be passed to other children. Please complete a full treatment and have your child checked by our nurse before bringing them back to nursery.
10. Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease – This is a common illness seen at nursery and is unfortunately contagious before any symptoms are present. Please do not bring your child

back to nursery if they still have weeping or wet sores. Once sores are dry, they are no longer infectious.

11. Molluscum warts/water warts – A viral infection of the skin resulting in small, raised pink lesions. If your child is diagnosed with molluscum warts, please ensure they are covered at all times by clothing or plasters while at nursery to prevent the spread of infection.

Implementation Documents:

KVN General Hygiene and Sanitation Policy 2019
KVN Healthy Eating & Nutrition Policy 2019
KVN First Aid and Medicene Policy 2019
KVN Health Care Providers Policy 2019
KVN Emergencies & Critical Incidents Policy 2019

Date of Review: January 2019

Date of Next Review: January 2020

Signed on Behalf of the Setting:

Printed Name of Signatory: Laura Willing

Designation of Signatory: Nursery Manager

SICKNESS & COMMUNICABLE DISEASE POLICY DECLARATION

I, _____, the parent of _____,

confirm that I have read and acknowledge Kidz Venture Nursery's Sickness & Communicable Disease Policy and will abide by the rules and recommendations.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

A copy of this signed declaration will be kept at the nursery.