

# Illness Procedures

*Date of last review:* October 2016

*Conducted by:* M. Jarrett (HoC), M. Haddon (SAO)

*Date of next review:* October 2017



## **Introduction**

We encourage self-care routines and healthy choices, hoping to promote good health and to limit the spread of any illness. We have systems in place to minimise cross infection. Our toys and equipment are washed on a regular basis and we follow thorough hygiene routines. However, it is inevitable that from time to time young children become ill. This is part of their development.

Once a child becomes ill we will, if necessary, follow the NHS guidance document, "Health for All Children". This guidance offers clear information to parents with regard to keeping children at home, consulting their GP or continuing to bring them to the Centre. However, often when children are ill, they need to be with their parents.

## **General procedures**

We only administer medicines where a condition is long-term and would otherwise make it impossible for a child to attend the Centre. Examples include asthma, eczema and diabetes. Any medicine that is administered by the Centre must be prescribed by a doctor.

A 'Health Care Plan' is put in place for each child who may require medication whilst at the Centre. This gives the Centre authorisation from a parent/carer to administer the medicine. When medication is administered the date and time is recorded; a senior member of staff witnesses the administration of the medication and the parent signs the record when they pick their child up from the Centre. This record forms part of the health care plan.

## **Antibiotics and Calpol**

We do not administer antibiotics or Calpol to children except in exceptional circumstances. In such circumstances a Health Care Plan is drawn up with advice from a community nurse, where appropriate.

If your child has been prescribed antibiotics by your GP, it is advisable to keep them at home for at least 48 hours for the antibiotics to start to do their work. In such cases, the child is often not well enough to be at the Centre at all.

If your child is well enough to return to the Centre after the first two days of antibiotics but needs to continue to take the antibiotics, you may administer these to your child yourself as you drop off and collect them. Case-by-case discussions may take place with the Head or Assistant Head of Centre.

## **More minor but ongoing discomforts**

Sometimes a child can become uncomfortable with new teeth coming. At Ambler, we can apply an appropriate soothing agent with your consent. Should a child be uncomfortable with a nappy rash, we can offer to use barrier cream to soothe this. Again, such applications will only be done with parental consent.

## **Children becoming unwell whilst at the Centre**

Firstly, if your child has had an uncomfortable night and you feel they may become ill during the day, please let us know. This way, we can monitor them. You are always welcome to call us and check on your child at any point in the day. If your child does become ill, we will call you and perhaps ask you to collect them.

If a child develops a high temperature whilst at the Centre, it is our policy to monitor a child's temperature by taking it three times over half an hour. If the results of this indicate that a child needs to go home, we will call you immediately. For children under two we will call you in at an earlier stage.

Your child's well-being is our primary concern. Please share any relevant information with us regarding your child's health and we will do the same.

### **Notifiable Diseases**

If your child has a notifiable disease we have a duty to contact the local Health Protection Team. We are able to provide a list of infectious diseases, and give you the details of exclusion periods required before a child can return to the Centre, should you require it.

### **First Aid**

All our staff have had Paediatric First Aid training or First Aid at Work training. First Aid boxes are kept in each room and our member of staff responsible for first aid checks these regularly.

---

*Related policies:* First Aid and Accident Reporting, Managing Medicines, Safeguarding