

Sickness and Illness

EYFS: 3.44, 3.45, 3.46

At **Palace Day Nursery** we promote the good health of all children attending. To help keep children healthy and minimise infection, we do not expect children to attend nursery if they are unwell. If a child is unwell it is in their best interest to be in a home environment with adults they know well rather than at nursery with their peers.

Our procedures

In order to take appropriate action of children who become ill and to minimise the spread of infection we implement the following procedures:

- If a child becomes ill during the nursery day, we contact their parent(s) and ask them to pick up their child as soon as possible. During this time, we care for the child in a quiet, calm area with their key person, wherever possible.
- We follow the guidance given to us by Public Health England (Health Protection in Schools and other childcare facilities) and advice from our local health protection unit on exclusion times for specific illnesses, e.g. sickness and diarrhoea, measles and chicken pox, to protect other children in the nursery.
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as sickness and diarrhoea, **they must not return to nursery until they have been clear for at least 48 hours.**
- We inform all parents if there is a contagious infection identified in the nursery, to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness. We thoroughly clean and sterilise all equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child to reduce the spread of infection, this is in addition to our normal cleaning and sterilising procedures which we have in place within the setting.
- We notify Ofsted as soon as possible and in all cases within 14 days of the incident where we have any child or staff member with food poisoning.
- We exclude all children on antibiotics for the first **24 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). This is because it is important that children are not subjected to the rigours of the nursery day, which requires socialising with other children and being part of a group setting, when they have first become ill and require a course of antibiotics. It also ensures should a child have an allergic reaction to the medication, they are with parents and can be monitored or medical attention sought if required.
- We have the right to refuse admission to a child who is unwell. This decision will be taken by the manager on duty and is non-negotiable
- We make information/posters about head lice readily available and all parents are requested to regularly check their children's hair. If a parent finds that their child has head lice, we would be grateful if they could inform the nursery so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair. Parents are encouraged to treat headlice at home as soon as possible, there is no exclusion from the setting for children who have headlice.

Meningitis procedure

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has meningitis, the nursery manager will contact the Local Area Infection Control (IC) Nurse. The IC Nurse will give guidance and support in each individual case. We will follow all guidance given and notify any of the appropriate authorities including Ofsted, if necessary.

Transporting children to hospital procedure

The nursery manager/staff member must:

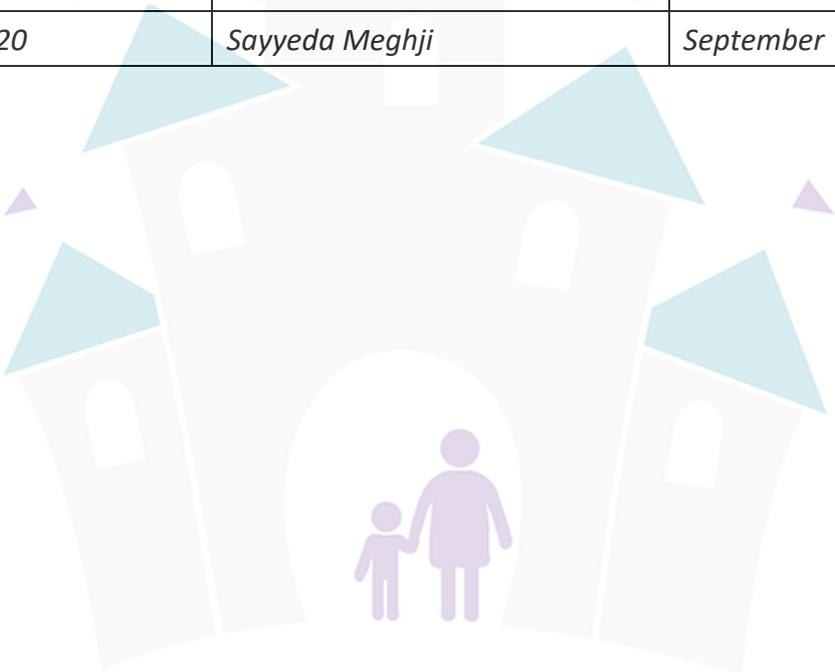
- Call for an ambulance immediately if the sickness is severe. They will NOT attempt to transport the sick child in their own vehicle.
- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, contact will be made with parent(s) and arrange for them to meet the child at the hospital.
- There will be a redeployment staff if necessary, to ensure there is adequate staff deployment to care for the remaining children. This may mean temporarily grouping the children together.
- Arrangements will be made for the most appropriate member of staff to accompany the child to hospital, taking with them any relevant information such as registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter.
- Staff members will inform a member of the management team immediately should they not be on site at the time of the incident.
- All staff will remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support following the accident, this will be arranged.

Our procedure for dealing with cases of COVID-19

- Anyone who begins to display coronavirus symptoms while in the setting will be sent home immediately.
- The main symptoms of coronavirus are:
 - **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature) or temperature which is 37.8°C or above.
 - **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
 - **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- We will follow government guidelines on how to clean/ run the setting following a child or adult being sent home with symptoms of covid-19, we ask parents to follow the government guidelines
- on [what to do if you or someone in your household develops symptoms](#).
- If a child is waiting to be collected, they will be separated from their group and isolated with one member of staff.

- A facemask will be worn if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained from a child who is symptomatic and awaiting collection. If contact is necessary, then gloves, an apron and a facemask will be worn.
- If a risk assessment determines there is a risk of splashing to the eyes, for example from coughing or spitting, then eye protection will also be worn.
- Our settings will ensure we are prepared to respond in line with the [guidance on use of protective measures in education and childcare settings](#) and follow the [guidance on using PPE in education, childcare and children’s social care settings](#).
- Once the child or member of staff has left the setting, we will follow [Cleaning of non-healthcare settings](#) to ensure areas that have been in use are disinfected and any PPE and other waste is disposed of safely

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
<i>September 2020</i>	<i>Sayyeda Meghji</i>	<i>September 2021</i>



The Palace

Day Nursery