

Illness & Injury Policy

1st Place promotes the good health of the children, takes necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and takes appropriate action when they are ill.

The welfare and health of our children is our primary consideration, so we believe that it is in the child's best interests to be at home if they are unwell. It is the role of the manager/deputy manager to ensure that no child is admitted to the nursery suffering from an illness that requires exclusion.

The child's general health and wellbeing will be assessed at the Pre-admissions visit using the profile completed by the parent.

All staff have responsibility for constantly assessing the child's state of wellbeing and health through ongoing monitoring and observation.

Procedure for an unwell child

Should a child become unwell at nursery, staff will undertake the following procedure:

- 1 We will assess and monitor the child's current health. Senior staff will be alerted if the child has a high temperature, vomiting, or signs of distress. The child may themselves tell staff that they are feeling ill, and this will be listened to and acted upon.
- 2 Parents/carers will be contacted by telephone to inform them of their child's situation, and if necessary, ask them to come to the nursery as soon as possible. The member of staff making contact with the parents/carers will record the fact, including concise details of the conversation.
- 3 The child will be made as comfortable as possible. Staff will take care to see that cross-infection to other children is minimised.
- 4 Staff will continue to monitor the child's symptoms, by observation and recording temperature every hour.
- 5 Staff will give a clear and concise report to the parents/carers on their arrival at the nursery.
- 6 Staff will ask the parents/carers for an update on the child's health before they come back to the nursery.

Please note that parents/carers will:

- Be informed of any accidents to the head sustained by a child – all head injuries require medical advice.
- Be called if the child suffers a facial injury whilst at nursery.

Infection control

Symptoms and illnesses that require a child's exclusion can be found in the 'Health Protection Agency Guidance on Infection Control in Childcare Settings' table displayed in the nursery.

If a child has a communicable disease confirmed by the doctor, the nursery should be informed and other parents/carers and staff notified. When a child is considered to be well enough to be at the nursery, they are considered to be well enough to participate in all activities.

COVID-19

If a child starts to feel unwell at home and is presenting symptoms of COVID-19, parents/carers should follow the guidance provided on NHS website (www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/). This includes going into self-isolation as a family and arranging a free test as soon as possible (ideally within the first five days of having symptoms).

If your child feels unwell on site, we will contact you immediately (following the above procedure). Should your child be showing symptoms of COVID-19, we request that you follow the guidance provided on the NHS website (www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/). This includes going into self-isolation as a family and arranging a free test as soon as possible (ideally within the first five days of having symptoms).

At Lorrimore Square and Cambridge House, unwell children will be moved to the office behind reception to await collection. At Chumleigh Gardens, unwell children will be moved to the Session Room.

We ask that parents/carers keep in contact and update us should their child or any other family members develop symptoms of or test positive for COVID-19. A copy of any test results (positive and negative) should also be emailed to Director@1stplace.uk.com for our records.

If a child within the nursery or one of their family members is known to have symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test, we will inform Public Health England, as well as all parents of children attending the nursery. As children will be in Key groups, it will be possible to identify which people have had close contact with the affected family group.