

PRIMROSE HILL'S MEDICAL POLICY



In school/nursery, you make lots of friends and you catch lots of cold ! “Several studies have indicated that children’s exposure to microbes at day care & school strengthen their immune systems. Primrose Hill support these studies ! These studies are mixed and now we shall open it up for your comments

Sickness and illness POLICY

Children should not be left at school if they are unwell. If a child is unwell then they will prefer to be at home with their parent(s) rather than school with their peers. We will follow these procedures to ensure the welfare of all children within the school:

! If a child becomes ill during the day, their parent(s) will be contacted and asked to pick their child up as soon as possible. During this time the child will be cared for in a quiet, calm area with their key person.

! In the case of a child coming up in a **rash**, we may ask you to collect your child and get them seen by a doctor for advice as whether is it infectious or not.

! Should a child have an **infectious disease**, such as an eye/ear infection or sickness and diarrhoea, they should not return to school until they have been clear for at least **48 hours** !

It is vital that we follow the advice given to us by our **PANEL DOCTORS** and exclude specific **contagious conditions**, e.g. diarrhoea, conjunctivitis, Hand, foot and mouth, Oral Thrush and chicken pox to protect other children in the school. Illnesses of this nature are very contagious and it is exceedingly unfair to expose other children to the risk of an infection !

If a contagious infection is identified in the school, parents will be informed to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness. All equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child will be cleaned and sterilised thoroughly to reduce the spread of infection !

It is important that children are not subjected to the rigours of the 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. Our policy, therefore, is to exclude children on antibiotics for the first 48 hours of the course (unless this is part of an on going care plan to treat individual medical conditions e.g. asthma and the child is not unwell) !

The school has 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!

Information/posters about head lice are 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 school so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair!

Meningitis procedure

If a parent informs the school that their child has meningitis, the manager should contact the Infection Control (IC) Department. The IC Nurse will give guidance and support in each individual case. If parents do not inform the school, we will be contacted directly by the IC Nurse and the appropriate support will be given.

Transporting children to hospital procedure

If the sickness is severe, call for an ambulance immediately. **DO NOT** attempt to transport the sick child in your own vehicle. Whilst waiting for the ambulance, contact the parent and arrange to meet them at the hospital. A senior member of staff must accompany the child and collect together registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter. A member of the management team must also be informed immediately. Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance.

Infection control

Viruses and infections can be easily passed from person to person by breathing in air containing the virus which is produced when an infected person talks, coughs or sneezes. It can also spread through hand/face contact after touching a person or surface contaminated with viruses. The best way to prevent a virus or infection from moving around the school environment is to **maintain high hygiene standards in the school**. To do this we will follow the guidance below:

Ensure all children use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch all germs

Ensure all tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way and all children and staff wash their hands once the tissue is disposed off

Encourage all children to do the above by discussing the need for good hygiene procedures in helping them to stay healthy

Staff will all wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when changing nappies, bringing children to the toilet and dealing with any other bodily fluids. Staff is requested to dispose of these in the appropriate manner and wash hands immediately. Staff must complete the nappy changing chart

All potties and changing mats are cleaned and sterilised before and after each use

Toilets are cleaned daily following our chart

Staff is to remind children to wash their hands before eating, after visiting the toilet, playing outside or being in contact with any animal and explain the reasons for this

All toys, equipment and resources will be cleaned daily and using antibacterial cleanser or through washing in the washing machine

All equipment used by babies and toddlers will be washed or cleaned as and when they need it – this includes when the children have placed it in their mouth

If a dummy or bottle falls on the floor or is picked up by another child, this is cleaned immediately and sterilised where necessary

Individual bedding will be used by children and labeled. This will be washed at least once a week and not used for any other child

Parents and visitors will be required to remove all outdoor footwear or use shoe covers when entering rooms where children may be crawling or sitting on the floor

When children are ill we will follow the sickness and illness policy to prevent the spread of any infection in the school. Staff is also requested to stay at home if they are contagious

The manager retains the right of refusal of all children, parents, staff and visitors who are deemed contagious and may impact on the welfare of the rest of the school

Parents will be made aware of the need for these procedures in order for them to follow these guidelines whilst in the school

The school will ensure stocks of tissues, hand washing equipment, cleaning materials and sterilising fluid are maintained at all times and increased during the months when flu and cold germs are circulating.

Primrose Hill One & the Infant's Room are steamed cleaning on a daily basis. The entire school of Primrose Hill One & Two are thoroughly steamed cleaning weekly.

IMPORTANT EXCLUSION GUIDELINES

It is very important that we control the spread of infection at the school, in order to do so we **ENFORCE** the following exclusion times:-

TEMPERATURE/FEVER

3 days from the onset of a fever.

COMMON COLD/TONSILLITIS

Management discretion is applied however the child must be deemed as generally well themselves and happy to be at the school.

HEAD LICE

Excluded until their hair has been fully treated.

DIARRHOEA/VOMITTING, GASTROENTERITIS OR FOOD POISONING

Clear of symptoms for 48 hours since the last loose stool or period of vomiting.

BACTERIAL CONJUNCTIVITIES

Until fully treated with antibiotics for 48 hours.

EYE INFECTION

Until fully treated for 48 hours.

CHICKEN POX

Until all blister are dry and the child's general health is normal.

WHOOPING COUGH

5 days from the commencement of antibiotic treatment.

MEASLES

5 days from the onset of a rash.

HAND, FOOT & MOUTH

Until blisters are dry (approx 5-7 days) and child's general health is normal.

MUMPS

5 days from the onset of a rash.

IMPETIGO

5 days from the onset of a rash.

*****IMPORTANT NOTICE*****

If your child should become unwell whilst at the school, you will be contacted and asked to collect them as soon as possible.

Parents **MUST** bring medical note from GP (general practitioner) stating that the child is clear with any infection and allowed to attend the school.

Parents **MUST** inform the Managers of all medication the child is taking at home and the information **MUST** be in writing.

Parents **MUST** provide the medical note received from the GP to the Managers if the school is required to administer the medication to the child. A written consent is also required from the Parents.

Parents should update to the Managers of your child health progress.

STAY CALM & HEALTHY