



Caverstede Nursery School

Sick Child

Review every three years

Last Reviewed: Children's Welfare & Equalities committee 05.12.2023
Review Due: October 2026

Children under five are very vulnerable to the spread of infection. We expect parents to keep their child at home if they are unwell.

- If a child is ill and prescribed antibiotics we ask parents to keep them at home for the first 24 hours.
- In cases of diarrhoea and sickness, we ask parents not to bring their child back into nursery or attend any groups until 48 hours after the last attack.
- We ask parents to inform us if a child is absent from nursery and for what reason. We ask parents to ensure we have up to date contact details. The Nursery will take measures to contact the parent/carer if we are not informed.
- If a child becomes unwell during their time at nursery we contact the parents using the parent contact sheet, referring to the named contacts if the parent is unavailable.
- We refer to individual healthcare plans for children with allergies, requiring medication or other medical treatments.
- When the Nursery is unable to contact parent/carer, or in the absence of a parent/carer, staff would make a judgement as to whether medical advice or treatment is needed. The child will be cared for by familiar adults and a judgement will be made by our qualified paediatric first aiders as to the best location for the child, depending on the needs of the child and staff ratios.
- Emergency medication is kept in accordance with the medicines policy
- For other illnesses and infections, we refer to Public Health England www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england for information. We ask parents to seek advice from their GP.
- We will notify Ofsted, as soon as reasonably practicable, within 14 days of the incident if an outbreak of food poisoning occurs that affects two or more children looked after on the premises.
(Statutory Framework for the EYFS 2021, (page 34 – 3.50).

Infectious diseases including COVID-19

We will refer to government guidance re notable diseases and what to do if we suspect an outbreak of infection. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-4-what-to-do-if-you-suspect-an-outbreak-of-infection>.

As soon as an outbreak is suspected (even if it cannot be confirmed), the headteacher, or relevant member of staff as delegated by the Headteacher, will contact either the Local Authority or Public Health England to discuss the situation and agree if any actions are needed. Ofsted will also be advised when required.

The following information will be provided:

- The number of staff and children affected
- The symptoms present
- The date(s) the symptoms first appeared
- The number of classes affected

If the headteacher is unsure whether suspected cases of infectious diseases constitute an outbreak, they will contact the Local Authority or Public Health England.

If a member of staff suspects the presence of an infectious disease in the school, they advise a senior member of staff.

If a parent informs the school that their child carries an infectious disease, other pupils will be observed for similar symptoms by the staff.

Children will not be permitted into school until the minimum recommended exclusion period has passed, for the infectious disease, and the child is feeling well enough.

We would seek advice from Public Health England or local health protection teams on whether to inform other parents of infectious diseases, having particular regard to children with vulnerable health and medical conditions.

Information provided to parents during an outbreak will not include names and other personal details of those infected.

We work in partnership with a range of agencies to meet all children's individual needs. We work closely with parent and/or relevant health professionals' (e.g. Community Nurse, Epilepsy Nurse) to ensure we are informed and/or trained about individual children's needs. An Individual Healthcare Plan will be written where necessary.

Please make reference to:

- Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy
- Medicines Policy
- Parents Handbook
- Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions policy