



Illness, Medication and Immunisation

Introduction:

BCoT Nursery undertake procedures and precautions to minimise cross infection occurring between children, parents and staff and we also use 'The Public Health Agency Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings' as our guidelines. The nursery has a 'Well Child' Policy in place as we are not equipped to care for sick children. Parents, carers and staff are to adhere to the following policy and procedures.

The 'Well Child' Policy:

As every child is an individual they recover from illness in different ways and at different times, therefore, the nursery reserves the right to refuse admittance to any child it deems not well enough to attend. If your child is prescribed medication please keep them at home for the first 48 hours if they have not had the medication before and 24 hours if they have had the medication before to make sure they do not have an allergic reaction to it. Staff are able to administer prescribed medication, after the relevant forms have been completed and the child is well enough to return to nursery at least 24/48 hours after commencing the prescribed medication.

A child is well enough to attend nursery if:

- They are happy to be in nursery, join in with everyday nursery life and the activities on offer.
- They are not medication dependant (infant paracetamol (Calpol) or infant ibuprofen (Nurofen)) for example they have not been given medication within the last 12 hours and/or at regular intervals for the last 24 hours.

A child is not well enough to be in nursery if:

- They are not 'themselves', do not want to join in with everyday nursery life or the activities on offer, for example, all they want is to rest and be comforted.
- They are medication dependant (infant paracetamol (Calpol) or infant ibuprofen (Nurofen)) for example they have had medication within the last 12 hours and/or at regular intervals for the last 24 hours.
- They are showing significant signs of being unwell such as a rash, lethargy etc.
- They have diarrhoea and/or vomiting. Your child will not be allowed into nursery unless they have had a clear 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea and/or vomiting.
- They have a childhood infectious disease that The Public Health Agency Guidance on infection control recommends a period of absence for.

Procedures:

If a child becomes ill whilst at the nursery, staff will:

- Inform a senior member of staff and keep senior member of staff informed of any changes that occur.
- Take a child's temperature if they think it may be high and record this at regular intervals.
- If a child has a temperature they will remove layers of the child's clothing and place them in a quiet, cool and comfortable area.
- Maintain high standards of personal hygiene and take necessary precautions at all times in accordance with nursery policies and procedures.

A senior member of staff will:

- Contact the child's parent/carer and keep them informed of their child's condition.
- Inform a parent/carer as to whether their child needs to be picked up immediately.
- If required ask a parent/carers permission to administer infant paracetamol (Calpol) to lower child's temperature whilst waiting for them to collect their child.
- Call an ambulance if the child requires urgent medical attention.
- Ensure all staff maintain a high standard of personal hygiene and take necessary precautions at all times in accordance with nursery policies and procedures.

Always get medical advice if: (<http://www.nhs.uk/>)

- your baby is under three months old and they have a temperature of 38C (101F) or higher
- your baby is three to six months old and has a temperature of 39C (102F) or higher
- you think your child may be dehydrated
- your child develops a red rash that doesn't fade when a glass is rolled over it
- your child has a seizure
- your child is inconsolable and doesn't stop crying, or has a high-pitched or unusual sound when crying
- your child's fever lasts for more than five days
- your child's health is getting worse
- you have any concerns about looking after your child at home



Administering medication:

The nursery will only administer prescribed medication and it can only be administered if brought into the nursery in the original packaging with the child's name and dosage clearly visible on the prescription. Nursery staff will only administer medication after the relevant forms have been completed by the parent/carer.

Long term medication:

Any child or staff member who is on long term medication that is required in nursery hours such as an inhaler, Epipen etc will have their own named box in the office containing a Health Care Plan specific to the child or staff member and their medication.

Storage of Medication:

All medication must be clearly labelled with the child's name and in the original packaging. It will be kept in the nursery office unless it is medication that requires refrigeration that will be kept in fridge number one in the kitchen.

Notifiable disease procedure:

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has had a notifiable disease, the Nursery Manager, in conjunction with the College Nurse will inform Public Health England (PHE). A PHE nurse will give guidance and support in each individual case. If parents do not inform the Nursery, we will be contacted directly by the PHE team and the appropriate support will be given.

Injections, pessaries, suppositories:

As the administration of injections, pessaries and suppositories represents intrusive nursing, they will not be administered by any member of staff. If this causes a problem in providing appropriate care of a child, the nursery will consult Ofsted and other relevant outside agencies for advice.

Immunisation policy:

We recognise that it is parental choice as to whether you have your child vaccinated or not, therefore it is the responsibility of parents to inform the nursery of their decision. If your child is vaccinated, please inform us of the date of the vaccination to ensure your child's records are kept up to date. This is to ensure that children, parents and staff are not exposed to any unnecessary risks.

Updated January 2023