

Severn Beach Preschool

Sickness and infection control & Managing children with allergies

(Also including reporting notifiable diseases)

We provide care for healthy children and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic substance and through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections.

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

- If children appear unwell during the session – have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – the setting will call the parents and ask them to collect the child, or send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.
- If a child is sick or has diarrhoea at preschool they will be sat separately from the other children and kept comfortable and cared for until they are collected. Staff supporting the sick child will take care to maintain hygiene practices to prevent the spread of infection.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept comfortable and cool by removing excess clothing.
- In cases of emergency where staff members are concerned about a child's immediate health, they will call 111 for advice or will phone for an ambulance.
- Parents are asked to take their child to the doctor before returning them to the setting; the setting can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting.
- After sickness and/or diarrhoea parents are asked to keep children for 48 after the last bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea.
- The setting has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times.

Procedures for children with allergies

- When parents start their children at the setting they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the registration form.

- If a child has an allergy, a risk assessment form is completed to detail the following:
 - The allergen (the substance, material or living creature that the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc.)
 - The nature of the allergic reactions e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc.
 - What to do in case of allergic reaction, any medication used and how it is to be used (training may be required in the case of EpiPen use)
 - Control measures – such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen
 - Review.
- This form is kept in the child's personal file and key information is kept by the snack bar.
- Generally, no nuts or nut products are used within the setting.

Insurance requirements for children with allergies and disabilities

- The insurance will automatically include children with any disability or allergy but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below. For children suffering life threatening conditions or invasive treatments; written confirmation from our insurance provider must be obtained to extend the insurance.

At all times the administration of medication must be compliant with the administering medication policy.

Oral medication

Asthma inhalers are not regarded as 'oral medication' by insurers and so documents do not need to be forwarded to our insurance provider.

- Oral medicines must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturers instructions clearly written on them.
- The group must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer each medication prior to administration.
- All risk assessment procedures need to be adhered to for the correct storage and administration of medication.
- The group must have the parents or guardians prior written consent. This consent must be kept on the file. It is not necessary to forward copy documents to your insurance provider.

Life saving medication & invasive treatments

Adrenaline injections (Epipens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc) or invasive treatments such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy)

- The setting must have:
 - A letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication if any is administered;
 - Written consent from the parent or guardian allowing staff to administer medication;
 - Proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children's nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse.
- Copies of all three letters relating to these children must first be sent to the Pre-School Learning Alliance Insurance Department. Confirmation will then be issued in writing confirming that the insurance has been extended.

Special needs children – children requiring help with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment etc.

- Prior written consent from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
- Staff members to have relevant medical training/experience, which may include those who have received appropriate instructions from parents or guardians, or who have qualifications.

Reporting 'notifiable diseases'

- If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering from a notifiable disease under the public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency (HPA)
- When the setting becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the manager informs Ofsted and acts on any advice from the HPA.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure

- HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis, (A, B, and C) are spread through bodily fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for children and adults.
- Single use vinyl gloves and aprons are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with bodily fluids.
- Protective rubber gloves are used for cleaning/rinsing clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and either bagged for parents to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using a mild disinfectant solution and mops. Mops are soaked in a bleach solution. Cloths used are disposed of.
- Table and other furniture, furnishing or toys affected by bodily fluids are cleaned using disinfectant.