



# Infectious and Communicable Diseases Policy

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NEXT VERSION DUE BY:	Feb 2026

"Our Nursery is committed to the health and safety of all children and staff who play, learn and work here. As such, it will sometimes be necessary to require a poorly child to be collected early from a session or be kept at home while they get better. In such cases, the provisions of the Health, Illness and Emergency policy will be implemented."

In accordance with the procedures set out in the Health, Illness and Emergency policy, parents/carers will be notified immediately if their child has become ill and needs to go home. Poorly children will be comforted, kept safe and under close supervision until they are collected.

If a child has had to go home prematurely due to illness, they should remain at home until they are better or according to the times set out in the table below. If a member of staff becomes ill at work, similar restrictions on their return will apply.

If a child or member of staff becomes ill outside Nursery hours, they should notify the Nursery as soon as possible. The minimum exclusion periods outlined in the table below will then come into operation.

If any infectious or communicable disease is detected on the Nursery's premises, the Nursery will inform parents/carers personally as soon as possible. The Nursery is committed to sharing as much information as possible about the source of the disease and the steps being taken to remove it. If applicable Ofsted will also be informed of any infectious or communicable diseases discovered on the Nursery's premises.

### **Head lice**

When a case of head lice is discovered at the Nursery, the situation will be handled carefully and safely. The child concerned will not be isolated from other children, and there is no need for them to be excluded from activities or sessions at the Nursery. When the child concerned is collected, their parent/carer will be informed in a sensitive manner.

Other parents/carers will be informed as quickly as possible in writing, including advice and guidance on treating head lice. Staff should check themselves regularly for lice and treat whenever necessary.

## Minimum Exclusion Periods for Illness and Disease

<u>DISEASE</u>	<u>PERIOD OF EXCLUSION</u>
Chicken Pox	Until all vesicles have crusted over
Conjunctivitis	Once treatment has started
Diarrhoea/ Sickness Gastro-enteritis, food poisoning, Salmonella, Typhoid and Dysentery	48 hours from last episode or until advised by the doctor
Hand, Foot and Mouth disease	None
Hepatitis A	7 days from onset of jaundice & when recovered
Hepatitis B	None
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted over and healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment
Measles	4 days from onset of rash
Meningitis	Until certified well and recovered
Mumps	5 days minimum from onset of swelling
Pertussis (Whooping cough)	5 days from starting antibiotic treatment or 21 days from onset of illness if no antibiotic treatment
Poliomyelitis	Until certified well
Ringworm	Until certified well (Treatment is required)
Rubella (German Measles)	4 days from onset of rash
Scabies	Can return after first treatment
Scarlet fever and streptococcal infection of the throat	24hrs from the start of the appropriate antibiotic treatment
Tuberculosis	Until declared free from infection by a doctor / Consult local PHE Centre

This list is not necessarily exhaustive, and staff are encouraged to contact local health services if they are in any doubt.