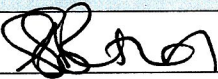




Infection Control Policy

Signed by:	
Head Teacher	
Chair of Governors	Approval delegated to Head Teacher
Date Adopted	21 November 2019
Date Reviewed	28 September 2022
Date of Next Review	Autumn Term 2024

Statement

Orchard Primary and Pre School recognises that infections can spread quickly amongst children in this type of environment; therefore, we will endeavour to ensure that infections are controlled and that good health and hygiene practises are maintained.

Aim

Our aim at Orchard Primary and Pre School is to prevent the spread of illness to children and staff.

This policy will help you understand how we deal with illness/infections at school and how you can help us with this.

Responsibility

Head Teacher/Pre-School Manager

It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher and/or Pre School Manager to ensure that any children, parents and staff members who have a contagious illness are excluded from school/pre-school for the recommended period of time.

Staff

All members of staff have a responsibility to ensure that they do not attend the setting if they have an infectious illness in order to prevent the spread of this illness.

All members of staff must ensure that, where a child who is clearly unwell is brought to school, the parent/carer speaks to a senior member of staff before a decision is made about whether the child should remain at school or go home.

Parents/Carers

Parents/carers are asked not to bring their child to school/pre-school in the following circumstances:

- Any signs of being poorly (when your child needs one-to-one attention).
- A high temperature or fever.
- If the child has taken medication such as Infant Paracetamol/Calpol to reduce a temperature.
- Diarrhoea and vomiting – children must be kept away from the setting until they have had **48 hours** without any symptoms. This will always mean a minimum of 2 days away from school.
- Conjunctivitis, if it has not been treated.
- Any childhood infectious disease (see poster attached to this policy)
- The Public Health Agency poster is available on the school website for parents (under Parent tab) to use as a point of reference.

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/guidance-infection-control-schools-and-other-childcare-settings-0>

How the Policy will be Implemented

Orchard Primary and Pre School aims to prevent the spread of infections and infectious illnesses by adhering to the following procedures:

- Excluding children with infections and infectious illnesses for the recommended period of time (refer to Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings – Public Health Agency).
- Excluding members of staff with infections and infectious illnesses for the recommended period of time (refer to Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings – Public Health Agency).
- Ensuring food hygiene standards are maintained and that staff hold a relevant food hygiene certificate.
- Children are taught, from Pre School onwards, to wash and dry their hands correctly and how to dispose of tissues in a hygienic manner.
- Identifying signs of illness in children and staff and then taking the appropriate action.
- Informing parents/carers of sick children that their child is ill and arranging for them to be collected as soon as possible.
- Limiting the contact of sick children with other children until they can be collected from school/pre-school.
- Reporting incidents of certain infections/infectious diseases to other parents and staff, as appropriate, whilst maintaining the anonymity of the children and staff members involved.

Dealing with children who become unwell

- When a child becomes unwell, their parent/carer will be contacted and asked to come and collect them, or make arrangements for the child to be collected as soon as possible.
- Where the parent/carer cannot be contacted, we will contact the child's emergency contact provided on the registration form
- Children who become unwell during the course of the school day will be made comfortable and will be cared for by a member of staff until their parent/carer can collect them. The dignity of the child will remain paramount, but measures will be put in place to ensure that the risk of the illness spreading is minimised.
- The child will wait in the school library area or cloakroom area (for sickness) and will be supervised by a member of staff.

Head Lice

A child should not be sent home to be treated for head lice; however, staff may discuss with parents the possibility of taking their child home for treatment to save the child from embarrassment or if it is causing distress to the child.

Notifiable Diseases

The following are diseases notifiable to local authority proper officers under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010:

- Acute encephalitis
- Acute infectious hepatitis
- Acute meningitis
- Acute poliomyelitis
- Anthrax
- Botulism
- Brucellosis
- Cholera
- Diphtheria
- Enteric fever (typhoid or paratyphoid fever)
- Food poisoning
- Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)
- Infectious bloody diarrhoea
- Invasive group A streptococcal disease
- Legionnaires' disease
- Leprosy
- Malaria
- Measles
- Meningococcal septicaemia
- Mumps
- Plague
- Rabies
- Rubella
- Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
- Scarlet fever
- Smallpox
- Tetanus
- Tuberculosis
- Typhus
- Viral haemorrhagic fever (VHF)
- Whooping cough
- Yellow fever

If we have any reason to believe that any child is suffering from a notifiable disease, we will inform the relevant authorities and inform Ofsted of any action taken.

In a case of food poisoning affecting 2 or more children cared for on-site, Ofsted will be notified as soon as reasonably practicable and in any case within 14 days of the incident.

Links to other Documents

- Early Years Policy

- Health and Safety Policy
- Statutory Framework for EYFS

Review

This Policy will be reviewed every 2 years.

Appendix 1

Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings (Public Health Agency)