

Coniston Early Years Centre Policy Document

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health

The provider must promote the good health of the children attending the setting. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents and/or carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.

Coniston Early
Years Centre



High Quality Care for All Children
A Firm Foundation for Education

6.2 Managing children, who are sick, infectious or with allergies

(including reporting notifiable diseases)

Policy Statement.

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

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

- If children appear unwell during the day - have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach - a member of staff calls the parents and asks them to collect the child, or to send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.
- If a child has a temperature, they are helped to keep cool, by removing top clothing.
- The child's temperature is taken using an electronic thermometer, kept near the first aid box in the main room and for the back rooms it is kept in the middle room.
- In extreme cases of emergency, the child will be taken to the nearest hospital and the parents informed.
- Parents are asked to take their child to their GP before returning them to pre school. In order to safeguard everyone's health the pre school **will refuse** admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- COVID19 and other pandemic illness - Staff are able to get tested for COVID at local centres and it is recommended this take place twice a week but it is only a recommendation and not a statutory requirement. If any child is displaying signs of COVID they will be sent home and advised to get a COVID test (Not lateral flow).n Parents are asked to send the results of the test through for our records. If a child tests positive for COVID19 then we will immediately contact PHE and follow their guidance. We will also notify Ofsted as we are required to do so within 14 days of a positive test.

- PPE is available for all staff and should be worn if they are dealing with a suspected case of COVID19 at any point.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours before they return to pre school, this is particularly important where children are prescribed a medication for the first time as they may be allergic to it but the allergy not yet known.
- After diarrhoea, parents are told they must keep children home for 48 hours.
- The setting has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times displayed on site.

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'

- If a child or adult is diagnosed as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency.
- When the pre school becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the manager informs Ofsted and acts on advice given by the Health Protection Agency.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure

- HIV Virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis A, B and C and COVID19 are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults.
- Single use vinyl gloves and aprons are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Protective rubber gloves are used for cleaning/slucing clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed where practical and double bagged for parents to collect when collecting their child.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using a mild disinfectant solution and mops, any cloths used are disposed of with the clinical waste.
- Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition, although in exceptional cases a parent may be asked to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all of the family if they are found to have head lice.

Procedures for children with allergies

- When parents start their children at the pre school 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 (i.e. the substance, material or living creature 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, breathing problems etc.
 - What to do in case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how it is to be used (e.g. Epipen)
 - Control measures - such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen.
 - Review period.
- This form is kept in the child's personal file where staff can either see/access it.
- Parents train staff in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction - however if an Epipen is required training must be provided by a qualified medical professional.
- Where children are identified as having a severe allergic reaction to a substance for example nuts the pre school will do its utmost to ensure no nuts or nut products are used within the pre school. Parents are also made aware of the situation so as to ensure no nuts or nut products are inadvertently brought into the pre school.

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 requiring 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 Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and follow procedures based on advice given in Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings (DFES 2005).

Oral Medication

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

- Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP and have the manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.
- The pre school must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.

- All risk assessment procedures need to be adhered to for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
- The pre school must have parents/guardians prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file. It is not necessary to forward such documents to our insurance provider.

Life saving medication and 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 pre school must have:
 - A letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication if any is to be administered;
 - Written consent from the parent or guardian allowing staff to administer medication; and
 - 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 documents relating to these children must first be sent to the pre school insurance provider for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.

Key person for special needs children - children requiring assistance with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc

- Prior written consent must be obtained from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
- The key person must have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include those who have received appropriate instructions from parents or guardians, or who have qualifications, and where practical at least two members of staff will have the relevant training and knowledge for the child's condition.
- Copies of all letters relating to these children must first be sent to the pre schools insurance provider for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.

Further guidance

- *Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings (DFES 2005)*