



## Infectious and Communicable Diseases

---

**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 child who is unwell to be collected early from a session or be kept at home while she/he gets 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. Children who are unwell 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 for at least 24 hours, (48 hours for sickness and diarrhoea as advised by the HPA or according to the times set out in the table below. If a member of staff is ill, 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, as defined by the Health Protection Agency, 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 in writing 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. Ofsted will also be informed of any infectious or communicable diseases as defined by the Health Protection Agency.

Ofsted will be notified of any food poisoning affecting 2 or more children looked after on the premises, any child having meningitis or the outbreak on the premises of any notifiable disease identified as such in the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984 or because the notification requirement has been applied to them by regulations (the relevant regulations are the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988) (see [www.hpa.org.uk](http://www.hpa.org.uk)).

### **Coronavirus**

With the situation on Coronavirus ever changing we would like to reassure you that we continue to carefully monitor the risks associated with the outbreak of the virus to ensure you all remain safe.

As we continue with business as usual with a few changes to routines, please remember to follow some simple guidance to assist in preventing any spread of germs:

**Do:**

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze.
- Put used tissues in the bin immediately.
- Wash hands with soap and water often and use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- Keep to the 1m+ social distancing government guidance.
- Try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

**Don't:**

- Touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.

**Head lice**

When a case of head lice is discovered at the Nursery, the situation will be handled carefully and sensitively. 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 head lice and treat whenever necessary.

**Conjunctivitis**

When a case of Conjunctivitis is found, the parent of the child concerned will be contacted and asked to collect the child. They will be advised to seek medical advice and administer treatment. They will be able to return to the Nursery once the puss has dried and scabbed over.

**Sources of information about infectious illnesses**

Health Protection Agency – [enquiries@phe.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@phe.gov.uk)

Call 111 for non-emergency advice

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee:

..... Chairperson

This policy was updated by the Manager and staff and will be updated annually. Next due to be updated: September 2021.

“Horspath Nursery is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, families and staff at all times.”