Sickness and Illness

|  |
| --- |
| EYFS: 3.45, 3.46, 3.47, 3.48 |

At **Kattz Kid** we promote the good health of all children attending including oral health by:

* Asking parents to keep children at home if they are unwell. If a child is unwell it is in their best interest to be in a home environment rather than at nursery with their peers.
* Asking staff and other visitors not to attend the setting if they are unwell
* Helping children to keep healthy by providing balanced and nutritious snacks, meals and drinks
* Minimising infection through our rigorous cleaning and hand washing processes **(see infection control policy)** Ensuring children have regular access to the outdoors and having good ventilation inside
* Sharing information with parents about the importance of the vaccination programme for young children to help protect them and the wider society from communicable diseases
* Having areas for rest and sleep, where required and sharing information about the importance of sleep and how many hours young children should be having.
* Providing our families with oral health packs.

**Definition of a Well Child**

* A child who is not reliant on medication (paracetamol or ibuprofen) to keep their temperature down. At Kattz Kidz we cast a temperature as 38 degrees or above.
* A child who does not require one on one care.
* A child who is not crying for long periods of time, out of the ordinary for that child.
* A child who is not showing signs of an infectious disease, such as vomiting and diarrhoea.

**Our procedures**

In order to take appropriate action of children who become ill and to minimise the spread of infection we implement the following procedures:

* If a child becomes ill during the nursery day, we contact their parent(s) and ask them to pick up their child as soon as possible. During this time, we care for the child in a quiet, calm area with their key person (wearing PPE), wherever possible
* We follow the guidance published by Public Health England (Health Protection in Schools and other childcare facilities) and advice from our local health protection unit on exclusion times for specific illnesses, e.g. sickness and diarrhoea, measles and chicken pox, to protect other children in the nursery.
* Should a child have an infectious disease, such as sickness and diarrhoea, they must not return to nursery for the required incubation period, as per the NHS guidelines for the illness.
* We inform all parents if there is a contagious infection identified in the nursery, to enable them to spot the early signs of this illness. We thoroughly clean and sterilise all equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child to reduce the spread of infection
* We notify Ofsted as soon as is reasonably practical, but in any event within 14 days of the incident of any food poisoning affecting two or more children cared for on the premises.
* We ask parents to keep children at home for the first 24 hours of any new medication that a child has been prescribed. This is to ensure that the child does not have any adverse reactions to the medication.
* Children can attend the nursery with medication. This MUST be prescribed, and the prescription label should be visible on the medication. Parents are required to send a message via Family with the name of the medication, times and dosage required.
* We have the right to refuse admission to a child who is unwell. This decision will be taken by the manager on duty and is non-negotiable
* Parents are required to inform the nursery if their child has an illness, especially if it is contagious. The nursery has a duty of care to it’s children and parents and we are required to inform parents of any infectious diseases present within the nursery. This is to ensure that any vulnerable persons are given all information.

Meningitis procedure

If a parent informs the nursery that their child has meningitis, the nursery manager will contact the Local Area Infection Control (IC) Nurse. The IC Nurse will give guidance and support in each individual case. If parents do not inform the nursery, we may be contacted directly by the IC Nurse and the appropriate support given. We will follow all guidance given and notify any of the appropriate authorities including Ofsted where necessary.

We will follow the transporting children to hospital procedure in any cases where children may need hospital treatment.

The nursery manager/staff member must:

• Inform a member of the management team immediately

* Call 999 for an ambulance immediately if the illness is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the unwell child in your own vehicle
* Follow the instructions from the 999 call handler
* Whilst waiting for the ambulance, a member of staff must contact the parent(s) and arrange to meet them at the hospital
* Redeploy staff if necessary to ensure there is adequate staff deployment to care for the remaining children. This may mean temporarily grouping the children together
* Arrange for the most appropriate member of staff to accompany the child taking with them any relevant information such as registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child’s comforter
* Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support following the accident.

*\*If a child has an accident that may require hospital treatment but not an ambulance and you choose to transport children within staff vehicles Citation advice is to consider the following in your policy:*

* *Requesting permission from parents*
* *Ratio requirements of the setting being maintained*
* *The age and height of the child, in regards to will they need a car seat? Further guidance can be found at* [*www.childcarseats.org.uk/types-of-seat/*](http://www.childcarseats.org.uk/types-of-seat/)
* *There are some exceptions for needing a child seat depending again on their age. Further guidance can be found at* [*www.childcarseats.org.uk/the-law/cars-taxis-private-hire-vehicles-vans-and-goods-vehicles/#under-three*](http://www.childcarseats.org.uk/the-law/cars-taxis-private-hire-vehicles-vans-and-goods-vehicles/#under-three)
* *With the fitting of the car seat, we also need to ask has the individual had training in carrying in carrying this out*
* *Is this transport covered under business insurance, so a call to your insurance company will be needed, or do they have business insurance on their vehicle?*
* *Safeguarding of the child needs to be looked at. In certain situations, e.g. a designated member of staff should be appointed to plan and provide oversight of all transporting arrangements and respond to any difficulties that may arise. Wherever possible and practicable it is advisable that transport is undertaken other than in private vehicles, with at least one adult additional to the driver acting as an escort. Staff should ensure that the transport arrangements and the vehicle meet all legal requirements. They should ensure that the vehicle is roadworthy and appropriately insured and that the maximum capacity is not exceeded*
* *Emergency procedures, e.g. what happens if the child’s health begins to deteriorate during the journey.*

This policy will be reviewed at least annually in consultation with staff and parents and/or after a significant incident, e.g. serious illness/hospital visit required.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **This policy was adopted on** | **Signed on behalf of the nursery** | **Date for review** |
| *11/04/2022* | *E. Elliott* | *11/04/2023* |