

## **Sickness and Illness NMS 2.2; 5.1; 10.1; 10.3; 10.6; 10.7**

We promote the good health of all children and young people attending our provision. To help keep them healthy and minimise infection, we do not expect children and young people to attend any of our provision if they are unwell.

### **Our procedures**

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

- If a child becomes ill during the time they are in attendance at any of our provision, 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 a familiar staff member where possible.
- We follow the guidance available 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 and young people.
- Should a child have an infectious disease, such as sickness and diarrhoea, they must not return to the setting until they have been clear for at least 48 hours. We notify the CIW and RCT Play Commissioner as soon as possible where we have any child or staff member with food poisoning. We inform all parents if there is a contagious infection identified in the setting, 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 exclude children on antibiotics for the first 48 hours of the course (unless this is part of an ongoing care plan to treat individual medical conditions e.g. asthma and the child is not unwell). This is because it is important that children are not subjected to the rigours of the setting, which requires socialising with other children and being part of a group setting, when they have first become ill and require a course of antibiotics
- We have the right to refuse admission to a child who is unwell. This decision will be taken by the staff member/manager on duty and is non-negotiable
- We can source information/posters about head lice and/or provide a letter to parents to request they regularly check their children's hair. If a parent finds that their child has head lice, we would be grateful if they could inform the setting so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair.

### **Meningitis procedure**

If a parent informs us that their child has meningitis, the Children and Young People's Development Officer should contact the Infection Control (IC) department of Cwm Taf Morgannwg Health Board [ctmuhb.nhs.wales/infectioncontrol](https://ctmuhb.nhs.wales/infectioncontrol) to inform them and must also inform CIW [CIW@gov.wales](mailto:CIW@gov.wales) and RCT Play Paula Butler [paula.butler@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:paula.butler@rctcbc.gov.uk) or Teresa Edwards [theresa.e.edwards@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:theresa.e.edwards@rctcbc.gov.uk). We will follow all guidance given and notify the appropriate persons if required to do so.

### **Transporting children to hospital procedure**

The Children and Young People's Development Officer/staff member must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the sickness is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the sick child in your own vehicle □ Whilst waiting for the ambulance, 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 and young people. 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 belongings
- Inform a member of the management team immediately
- Remain calm at all times. Children and young people who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need support and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support following the incident/accident.

**Please Note:**

If a child has an accident that may require hospital treatment but not an ambulance, staff must contact a parent to transport them to the hospital. If the child's health begins to deteriorate whilst waiting for the parent to arrive, staff will call for an ambulance and notify the parents and senior staff team.

This policy was adopted on 13.10.2025 and will be reviewed on or before 13.10.2026

| Name and Position                                | Signed                 | Date       |
|--|------------------------|------------|
| Kate O'Sullivan<br>Community Association Manager | <i>Kate O'Sullivan</i> | 13.10.2025 |
| Olive Frances<br>Vice Chair of Trustees          | <i>Olive Frances</i>   | 13.10.2025 |