



SICK CHILD POLICY

Rida Early Years Nursery takes its responsibility seriously regarding reducing the spread of illness and ensuring that all children receive equal treatment. If a child is unwell then parents are asked not to bring them to school. Please refer to the Attendance and Punctuality policy for information.

If a child is unwell at home:

- Parents shall not send their child if they have been vomiting or had diarrhoea until at least 48 hours has elapsed since the last bout. This is to reduce infection in the school;
- Parents shall keep their children at home if they have any infection, and inform the school as to the nature of the infection so that the school can alert other parents, and make careful observations of any child who seems unwell;
- Parents are asked to be considerate when returning children to the school following a notifiable infectious disease such as Chicken Pox, Mumps etc., and that the recommended isolation period is complete;

If a child is unwell at school, the school will:

- Contact parent(s) and ask them to collect their child;
- Staff will ensure that the child is made comfortable, kept as far away as possible from other children and in the company of an adult always;
- If the parent(s) cannot be contacted, then the alternative emergency contact will be used;
- A child who has sickness or diarrhoea whilst at the school is to be collected immediately and kept away for 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea;
- Children with infectious or contagious diseases shall be excluded for the duration of the minimum recommended period. If a member of staff suspects that a child has an infectious or contagious disease, they shall request that parents consult a doctor before returning the child to school. We recommend that no child attends the school while suffering from one of the communicable diseases and they should be excluded for the minimum periods recommended;
- Coughs and colds do not normally require children to be excluded but this depends on the severity and how the child will be able to cope with the school routine. If a child appears unwell we may ask that the child is taken home;
- We do not provide care for children, who are unwell, have a temperature of 38°C or above, or sickness and diarrhea, or who have an infectious disease.

Other considerations

- Children with head lice are not excluded (unless heavily infested, in which case parents will be contacted and asked to collect), but must be treated to remedy the condition;
- Parents are notified by a letter if there is a case of head lice in the setting.
- Parents are notified if there is an infectious disease, such as chicken pox;

- Good hygiene practice concerning the clearing of any spilled bodily fluids is carried out at all times;
- Cuts and open sores, whether on adults or children, will be covered with a dressing.

Exclusion of sick children from school

We understand the needs of working parents and do not aim to exclude children from school unnecessarily. However the decision of the school is final when requesting the exclusion of a child for illness or infection. Decisions will consider the needs of the child and those of other children and staff.

Although exposure of children to a communicable disease is not in itself sufficient reason to require their exclusion from school, any child who becomes a home contact of diphtheria, poliomyelitis, typhoid and paratyphoid fevers will be excluded.

Exclusion Period

Chicken Pox	Until vesicles have crusted over Children need to be absent from nursery for a minimum of 5 days from the onset of the rash. After this time, if all the spots have dried and scabbed over, the child can return to school.
German measles (Rubella)	4 days from onset of rash
Hand foot and mouth	None
Impetigo	Until sores are crusted or healed
Measles	4 days from onset of rash
Ringworm	None usually required
Scarlet fever	24 hours after commencing antibiotics
Warts and Verrucae	None, but should be covered if on feet
Diarrhoea and vomiting	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea & vomiting
Conjunctivitis	None
Head Lice	None - treatment required from parent

Mumps*	5 days from onset of swollen glands
Tonsillitis	None, but see GP for treatment
Whooping Cough	5 days from commencement of treatment, 21 days if no treatment
'Flu'(influenza)	Until recovered
Athletes foot	None
Cold sores (herpes simplex)	None
Molluscum contagiosum	None
Scabies	Child can return after first treatment
Slapped cheek/fifth disease	None
Shingles	Exclude only if rash weeping and cannot be covered
Thread worm	None

If an outbreak of an infectious disease is suspected, the school will inform the Local Health Protection Unit (HPU):

West Yorkshire HPT

If you need any information on health protection or are concerned by a health-related problem in your area, contact your nearest health protection team. This team covers the areas of Leeds, Bradford, Wakefield, Calderdale and Kirklees.

Contact details

West Yorkshire health protection team
Public Health England
Blenheim House,
West One,
Duncombe Street,
Leeds,
LS1 4PL

Tel: 0113 386 0300

School procedure to reduce the spread of illness/infection is as follows:

Hand hygiene

- Regular and effective hand washing among both staff and children is one of the most effective ways of controlling the spread of germs;
- Tissues are readily available to adults and children. We encourage children to blow and wipe their noses and discard tissues in the bins provided. All children are encouraged to cover their mouth when sneezing or coughing and then to wash their hands;
- Hands should always be washed after using the toilet.

Cleaning and clearing

- Disposable gloves are provided and shall be worn by staff when clearing up vomit, blood or any body fluid. All affected areas shall be cleaned with paper towels and disinfected immediately. Contaminated clothing shall be removed from the child, placed in plastic bags provided and given to parents to take home;
- Soiled clothes shall be placed in bags provided;
- Spare clothes (for children in the early years unit) are kept in case of accidents.

Medication

Please refer to the Medication policy for further information.