



Illness Accident and Emergency Policy

At all times, Little Meadows Nursery ensures the children in our care are kept safe, and good health is promoted, whilst taking the necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection within our setting.

Illness:

- Children can be accepted into the setting if they are **well and fit** to be away from home.
- Prescribed medicines can be given with prior written consent from the parent. Consent forms will be given to parents/guardians as required with information concerning the administering of medicines. It is the responsibility of both the parent/s and the setting to keep this form up to date.
- Little Meadows Nursery will only administer prescription medicine to your child as prescribed by a doctor or dentist. We ask that medicines are given to us in their original bottle with doctor's instructions on dosage. We will ensure that all medicines are stored correctly and safely. Children must not come into our setting with cough lozenges or any similar medication. If medication is required for them, parents/guardians must give the medication to the setting to administer to them. Once again parents/guardians will have to sign a form giving us consent to administer medication to their child.
- If the administering of prescription medicine requires technical or medical knowledge, we will ensure that we attend training for that medication from a qualified health professional. i.e. EpiPen or Diabetes.
- If children have had sickness or diarrhea, they should not be brought to the setting for at least **48 hours** after the last occurrence of sickness or diarrhea. If a child is suffering sickness or diarrhea whilst in the setting parents will be immediately contacted and asked to take the sick child home.
- It is understood by the setting that children can suffer with colds and. However Children who have a temperature or have been given paracetamol/ibuprofen-based medicine before attending the setting will not be allowed into the setting. This is due to the fact that medicine can disguise a temperature and could lead to complications.

Parents are asked to supply a range of contact numbers so they can be contacted quickly should their child fall ill. These records are updated regularly and we rely on parents to make this information available to us.

Staff are trained to recognise signs of illness and to respond accordingly, in full consultation with the Nursery Manager.

If a child has a temperature of 38 degrees or above they will be required to leave the setting and a parent will be contacted. The child must be collected within 45 minutes as children's health can deteriorate quickly.

If a child's condition deteriorates rapidly and gives cause for concern, an ambulance will be called. The parents will be informed and a member of staff will accompany the child to the hospital if staff ratios allow.

Parents are informed whenever an outbreak of infectious illness occurs in the setting. They will be informed of symptoms to look out for in their own child and provided with information on where to seek further help and advice. Staff in the setting follow strict hygiene routines at all times to minimise the spread of infection. Details of exclusion periods for children suffering from the most common illnesses can be found in our Health and Sickness procedure. Information on the symptoms and treatment of common childhood illnesses will be made available to parents, along with guidance on immunisation schedules. The Local Health Protection Team and Ofsted will be informed whenever an outbreak of a notifiable disease occurs in the setting.

Dealing with Sick Children

- Staff will remain calm and relaxed when dealing with ill children.
- Children will receive sympathetic and gentle care.
- Parents/carers will be contacted immediately to inform them of the situation, even if the child doesn't yet need to be collected
- Children suffering from an infectious illness will be excluded in accordance with our exclusion policy to protect the rest of the children and adults around them.
- The Management Team will make the final decision as to whether a child should be excluded due to illness.
- While the child is waiting to be collected a member of staff will care for them appropriately and they will be monitored closely.
- Any change in their condition will be noted and the Manager informed.
- When parent/carer arrives to collect their child they will be given detailed information on their child's condition.
- Staff will ensure the parent/carer has everything they need to get the child home safely
- If the parent is alone and the child needs to attend the hospital, a staff member will be made available to accompany them if ratios allow.

Accident:

- Little Meadows Nursery regularly reviews, update, and practice our safety routines, including fire drills. We have valid First Aid certificates and can administer basic First Aid treatment. Our First Aid box is stored in the classroom, and we have supplies when we go out and about. These are clearly labeled and easily accessible. All children's personal/medical details are kept by the setting where they are easily accessible in case of an emergency.
- All accidents are recorded on Accident forms and placed in the child's individual file and we notify Ofsted of any serious accidents, illnesses, injuries or death of any child in our care, and the action we have taken, within 14 days of the incident having occurred. We also notify our insurance company.
- Little Meadows Nursery will seek emergency treatment for a child if necessary.

In the event of an accident where emergency treatment is necessary for a child, the following action would be taken:

- 1) Reassure the injured child, and make sure the other children are kept safe, reassured and calm.
- 2) If we cannot deal with the accident ourselves, we will call 999.
- 3) We would telephone the parent of the child who has been injured/ill, to arrange to meet them at the hospital.
- 4) The child would be taken to hospital either by ambulance or by the parents.

Emergency:

- In the event of a fire, gas leak or similar emergency the setting may need to be evacuated and, in this event, the safest and clearest fire exits will be used. Children will be moved to a safe area away from the setting.
- Children regularly practice fire drills. There is a fire blanket in the kitchen next to the cooker. Fire exits are clearly displayed. Children are taught about safety and what to do in the event of a fire or other emergencies.
- Once the fire brigade has been called, the children will be taken to a safe place where care can be provided until parents arrive to collect their child once notified. No persons will re-enter the house until emergency services have deemed it safe to do so.

We will continually work in partnership with parents to ensure that children are always kept safe. We ask that everyone involved in the child works together to ensure this is achieved.

Please do not hesitate to ask any questions about this policy and procedures.

Policy updated: May 2025

Next Policy update: September 2025 or as required.