



EYFS

**Managing children who
are ill or infectious**

Summer 2025



**WHINLESS DOWN
ACADEMY TRUST**

POLICY STATEMENT

Vale View Nursery aim to provide care for healthy children through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic trigger.

PROCEDURE FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE ILL OR INFECTIOUS

- If children appear unwell during the day, for example, if they have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains in their head or stomach, a member of staff will call their parents and ask them to collect the child, or to send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept as cool as possible. The child's temperature is taken using a thermometer, kept in the changing room. If the child's temperate is above 38 degrees, then the parents will be phoned and asked to collect their child.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness, we ask parents to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting.
- After sickness and/or diarrhoea, we ask parents to keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.
- We follow the guidance given to us by Public Health England on exclusion times for specific illnesses.
- 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
- The nursery has the right to refuse admission to a child who is unwell or infectious. This decision will be taken by the manager and is non-negotiable.
- If a child requires medication, we follow the Administration of Medication Policy.

Common illnesses include:

Infection	Exclusion period
Athlete's foot	None
Chicken pox	At least 5 days or until the spots have scabbed over.
Cold sores	None – follow advice from pharmacy
Conjunctivitis	None - follow advice from pharmacy
COVID	3 days following test, although test is not statutory.

Diarrhoea/sickness	48 hours following the last episode
Flu	Until recovered
Glandular fever	None
Hand, foot and mouth	None
Headlice	None
Impetigo	48 hours after antibiotics have started
Measles	4 days after onset of rash
Ringworm	None
Scarlet fever	24 hours after antibiotics
Slapped cheek	None
Threadworm	None
Tonsillitis	None
Whooping cough	24 hours after antibiotics begun

REPORTING A NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

- If a child or adult is diagnosed as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection Regulations 2010, this will be reported to Public Health England.
- When the nursery becomes aware, or are formally informed of the notifiable disease, the Academy Business Manager contacts Public Health England, and acts on any advice given.
- Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults.
 - Staff to wear single-use vinyl gloves and aprons when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
 - Put very messy clothes straight into the washing machine
 - Clear spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit using mild disinfectant solution and mops; any cloths used are disposed of with the clinical waste.
 - Clean any tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit using a disinfectant.

NITS & HEADLICE

Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition; although in exceptional cases we may ask a parent to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared. On identifying cases of head lice, we inform all parents, ask them to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.

PROCEDURE FOR CHILDREN WITH ALLERGIES

When parents attend their child's induction and complete the application form, we ask parents if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the admissions form and induction form.

- If a child has an allergy, the medical needs policy is followed, with the correct documentation completed.
- No nuts or nut products are used within the setting. Parents are made aware so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in in packed lunches.
- Medical Health Care plans will be written for any child with a medical allergy that sets out the procedure in the case of an emergency.

HEAD INJURIES

If a child receives a significant bump to their head, it is our policy to contact the parent/carer immediately, for the child to be taken home or to the hospital if thought necessary. This is so the child can be monitored closely for any side effects or concussion. All injuries are logged in our accident book and signed by parents.

TRANSPORTING CHILDREN TO HOSPITAL

The nursery manager/staff member must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the sickness is severe or they have had a serious accident or you are following a child's medical health care plan. 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.
- 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 belongings.
- Inform a member of SLT immediately.
- 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 a staff vehicle. Ensure staff consider the following:

- 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.

- 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.
- Staff should ensure that their behaviour is safe and 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.