



# **Foresteers Outdoor Preschool**

## **Sickness and Emergency Treatment Policy**

**Reviewed January 2026**

Reviewed by Hayley Smith - Preschool Manager

### **Introduction**

This policy has been written in order to promote the good health of the children in our care, in line with the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, section 3.

At Foresteers Outdoor Preschool, the welfare of all children is of paramount importance to all staff. This policy will highlight staff responsibilities when dealing with a sick child as well as provide information for parents/carers about the procedures and policies in place at Foresteers Outdoor Preschool.

It is highly likely that at some point a child who attends the preschool may become sick from an illness, resulting in them feeling generally poorly and unwell. It is the responsibility of preschool staff to communicate effectively with parents and carers. The preschool takes responsibility to explain clearly to parent/carers our legal and moral approach when dealing with sickness and accidents with a child in our care, and have implemented effective procedures to support the process (see Accident and Incident Policy and Administration of Medicine Policy). We want to share this responsibility and it is expected that parents/carers will adhere to specific procedures and practices detailed within this policy.

### **Aims**

We aim to promote the good health of the children in our care and take steps to prevent the spread of infection and take appropriate action when a child becomes ill. We want to ensure that whilst in our care any child with medical needs receives the support and proper care needed.

We aim for clarity on the roles and responsibilities of the setting and of the parents in respect of each child's medical needs.

### **Method**

- In order for a child to enjoy their time at Foresteers Outdoor Preschool they must be well enough to attend. We do not expect parents to bring their child to preschool if they are unwell. We do not accept children that have had calpol before their attendance as this can mask illness and other symptoms. If a child is ill prior to coming to preschool parents are required to telephone the preschool at their earliest convenience, as their child may have an infectious disease, so other parents/carers will need to be notified. Parents/Carers cannot return their child to the preschool until they are no longer infectious, in order to avoid contamination.
- Where a child becomes unwell or ill during a session when possible we seek to contact the parent/carer to discuss the problem and decide on what course of action to take. Staff members will be appropriately trained in order to deal with each

situation appropriately. In an emergency we will contact the emergency services before contacting the parents/carers.

- We obtain parental consents for emergency medical treatment for their child, and administering of prescribed medication, as per Foresteers Outdoor Preschool's Administration of Medicine policy.

In deciding on the best course of action we have to consider all the children and adults in our care, as well as the child /adult who is unwell.

### **Key Guidelines for Exclusion**

Based upon Public Health England (PHE) guidance we adhere to the following exclusion periods depending upon the symptoms and illness:

#### **No Exclusion:**

Head Lice, Conjunctivitis, Tonsillitis, Roseola, Slapped Check, Threadworms, Hand, Foot and Mouth

#### **48 Hours:**

- Vomiting – after last symptom
- Diarrhoea – after last symptom

#### **5 Days from symptoms:**

- Chicken Pox / Shingles – 5 days after appearance of last spots.
- \*Whooping Cough
- \*German Measles
- \*Measles
- \*Mumps

#### **Other**

- \*Scarlet Fever – can return 24 hours after commencing antibiotics
- Scabies – until fully treated
- Ringworm – until on treatment
- Impetigo – until lesions have crusted over

#### **\*Notifiable Diseases**

There is a list of notifiable diseases which we have a legal obligation to report to Public Health England and Ofsted should a child within our care become infected. Some are named in this policy and are shown by a '\*' by the relevant illness. In these cases, we work closely with you the parents, PHE and Ofsted to ensure we follow any additional advice that may be given.

HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) may affect children or families attending the setting. Staff may or may not be informed about it. Children or families are not excluded because of HIV.

Staff that are sick or unwell do not attend the setting and only return to work when they are well enough to do so.

Cuts or open sores, whether on adults or children should be covered with a sticky plaster or other suitable dressing.  
Verrucae must also be covered.

### **Treatment of illness procedure**

Where a child becomes unwell or ill during a session we contact the Parent/Carer to discuss the problem and decide on what course of action to take.

**Send Child home early procedure**

Where necessary, the Parent/Carer will be asked to collect the child. If this is not possible then they will be asked to telephone the preschool after 30 minutes. If there is no improvement after this period, the Parent/Carer or authorized person as per enrolment form will be required to collect their child.

**Allergies**

- Parents provide information on individual children's allergies through the enrolment form when they first join the nursery. This includes details of the allergy, any dietary requirements and what to do if the child has an allergic reaction.
- This information is shared with all staff and a written record is kept in the Medication Folder in all first aid bags and on the daily attendance register. This means that staff on any given day are aware of the allergies of the children in their group and can take any action required to reduce the risk of an allergic reaction.
- If any allergy medication needs to be carried, eg Piriton or epi-pens, then parents provide written permission in advance to administer this in an emergency, signed by a doctor or pharmacist.
- Information on individual children's allergies is discussed at regular staff meetings.
- Parents are reminded half termly basis to update us with any changes,
- The nursery has a policy of no nuts in any food given to the children. Parents/carers are requested not to send any food to preschool which contains nuts.
- The nursery maintains a list of which children have specific food allergies and are aware of which days these children are attending preschool.

**This policy was adopted on**

*1st January 2026*

**Signed on behalf of the preschool**

***Hayley Smith***

**Date for review**

*December 2026*