



## Medication and its Administration Policy

It is the policy of The Close Day Nursery School to administer medication as instructed by a child's parent/carer providing the relevant consent form has been completed. However, it should be noted that it is not the policy of The Close Day Nursery School to accept children into the school if they have any form of infectious disease, we abide by the 'Guidance on Infection Control in School and Other Childcare Settings' document published by the Public Health England – displayed in the office.

Any medication to be administered must be recorded on the *Medical Consent Form*. This must be fully completed by the parent/carer and should state the correct medication to be given, the time it is to be given, the dosage to be given and the period over which the treatment should last for. It must be signed and dated. **If there is any medication prescribed by doctor/dentist we would not administer it unless we have seen the prescribed label on the bottle box, which clearly states child name / date of birth / dosage.**

The form should be kept in the register, and relevant staff made aware that it needs to be taken, and the medication given as directed. It must be witnessed and both members of staff must sign the medical consent form. At the end of the day the parent should be asked to re-sign the form so that they understand what medication was given and when. The medication to be used should be stored in a safe area away from any other child. The fridge in the kitchen may be used if necessary. The medication **MUST** be sent home with the child at the end of every session and should be labelled.

Once the period of treatment has ceased the form should be filed in the filing cabinet in the office. Periodically these slips will be reviewed and filed away for the recommended period of time which should not be less than 21 years.

There is a form of consent on the individual child's registration form (see extract below) that allows staff to authorise urgent, emergency, medical treatment in the event that parents/carers cannot be contacted.

Note: All staff are first aid trained.

From registration form

*"During the time that s/he attends The Close, we the parent/guardians of the above-named child will permit representatives of The Close Day Nursery School to authorise urgent medical treatment if we cannot be contacted at such time of the treatment being required. This would include the administration of such emergency treatments such as "Piriton" for insect stings/bites and the use of hypoallergenic plasters if considered necessary. In the event of very hot and sunny weather we also give permission for staff to apply child appropriate sunscreen if not supplied by parents (sunscreen supplied by parents will always be used in the first instance".*



## **Illness policy**

This policy has been written in order to promote the good health of the children in our care, in line within the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage, and guidance in the NHS and public health documents. We feel that children need to be fit and well in order to get the most from the setting. This policy has been prepared to ensure that the emotional and physical well-being of the children come first.

To help keep all the children in our care healthy, and to minimise the spread of infection, we do not expect children to attend nursery until they are well and infection period adhered to.

### **Sickness and Diarrhea**

In conjunction with the NHS guidance and Public Health; Sickness and diarrhoea are some of the easiest illnesses to spread between children and adults. The exclusion period must be at least 48 hours after the LAST bout NOT from the onset, this is to prevent the risk of an outbreak throughout the nursery. If your child has one bout of sickness, or two episodes of diarrhoea whilst at nursery, then we require the child to be collected.

If children or staff have intolerances or allergies such as dairy, wheat or egg, and they have diarrhoea or sickness due to eating a food which contains something they shouldn't, then this is a different circumstance. If we strongly believe that diarrhoea or sickness is caused by intolerances, not a bug, then children can stay at nursery. However, we would require a medical professional's confirmation and opinion of this, i.e. either a GP or pharmacist. Upset tummies could be caused when children who have intolerance's have been advised to reintroduce certain foods using the food ladders, this will need to be confirmed in writing from the GP or a Dietitian. Parents/ careers are encouraged to keep staff informed when they are starting the food ladders with at least 1 weeks' notice and then maintain regular updates on how this is affecting the child.

**Teething and loose nappies;** NHS document states, *'some people think that teething causes other symptoms, such as diarrhoea, but there's no evidence to support this'.*

From our experience, there can be a link with teething and causing the nappies to be softer, but not a runny or watery consistency. Practitioners will make a professional and reasonable judgment in the moment if a child has loose nappies, taking into account the child's well-being and limiting a potential spread of infection.

### **High temperatures / Medicine**

A normal temperature in babies and children can vary slightly from child to child. As stated in the NHS, a high temperature is classed as 38C or higher. If your child has had Calpol or Nurofen before arriving to nursery, then we ask you to make us aware of this at drop off. We are able to offer a second dose of medicine if consent has been correctly obtained. If a child develops a high temperature during their nursery day, various measures will be used to try and reduce their temperature, i.e. giving them fluids, removing clothing and administering medicine.

A staff member will firstly call parent/carer to make them aware of the fever and to offer Calpol/Nurofen. If staff feel the child is well enough to stay at nursery, they will be able to continue their session. If the child continues to have a high temperature after medicine and/or present as being unwell the parents/carers must collect their child. The nursery reserves the right to make a judgement on each individual case as to whether the child must be sent home. This will be based upon the severity of the fever and the physical and emotional wellbeing of the child.

Temperatures can coincide with teething in babies, the NHS document identifies this to be a mild temperature, of less than 38C. We can administer medicine upon parents request and if teething symptoms present. However, if the temperature is over 38C and they are showing signs of being unwell, staff will make a judgment in the moment, and potentially ring parent/carer for collection.

All staff are first aid trained, ensuring that we know how to treat and care for children who are unwell.