



## Harden Pre-School & Memorial Hall Springfield Breakfast & Afterschool Club



### Sick children policy

#### Policy Statement

At Harden Pre-school and Springfield Breakfast & Afterschool Club we promote the good health of all children attending including oral health by:

- Asking parents to keep children at home if they are unwell. If a child is unwell, it is in their best interest to be in a home environment rather than at Pre-school or Afterschool club with their peers.
- Asking staff and other visitors not to attend the setting if they are unwell.
- Helping children to keep healthy by providing balanced and nutritious snacks, meals and drinks
- Minimising infection through our rigorous cleaning and hand washing processes
- Ensuring children have regular access to the outdoors and having good ventilation inside
- Having areas for rest and sleep and working with parents to monitor levels of sleep for their children.
- Work in partnership with the community dental team to support the delivery of the Fluoride varnishing programme. We also promote dental hygiene through stories and planned activities.

#### Procedure

- If a child appears unwell during the day, for example has a raised temperature, sickness, diarrhoea\* and/or pains, particularly in the head or stomach then the manager calls the parents and asks them to collect the child or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.

\*Diarrhoea is defined as 3 or more liquid or semi-liquid stools in a 24-hour period. ([www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-9-managing-specific-infectious-diseases#diarrhoea-and-vomiting-gastroenteritis](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-9-managing-specific-infectious-diseases#diarrhoea-and-vomiting-gastroenteritis))

- If a child has a raised temperature, they are kept cool by removing top clothing, sponging their heads with cool water and kept away from draughts.
- A child's temperature is taken and checked regularly.
- In an emergency an ambulance is called and the parents are informed.
- Parents are advised to seek medical advice before returning them to the setting; the setting can refuse admittance to children who have a raised temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours.
- After diarrhoea or vomiting, parents are asked to keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.
- Some activities such as sand and water play and self-serve snack will be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.
- The setting has information about excludable diseases and exclusion times.

- The manager notifies the Chairperson of the management committee if there is an outbreak of an infection (affects more than 3-4 children) and keeps a record of the numbers and duration of each event.
  - The manager has a list of notifiable diseases and contacts Public Health England (PHE) and Ofsted in the event of an outbreak.
  - If staff suspect that a child who falls ill whilst in their care is suffering from a serious disease that may have been contracted abroad such as Ebola, immediate medical assessment is required. The manager or deputy calls NHS111 and informs parents.
- **HIV/AIDS procedure**
    - HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis, (A, B and C), are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults.
    - Single use vinyl gloves and aprons are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
    - Soiled clothing is bagged and labelled with the child's name for parents to collect.
    - Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using mild disinfectant solution and mops; cloths used are disposed of with clinical waste.
    - Tables and other furniture or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.
  - **Nits and head lice**
    - Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition; although in exceptional cases parents may be asked to keep the child away from the setting until the infestation has cleared.
    - On identifying cases of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family, using current recommended treatments methods if they are found.

### Further guidance

Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings (Public Health Agency)  
[https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance\\_on\\_infection\\_control\\_in%20schools\\_poster.pdf](https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf)

| This policy was adopted on     | Signed on behalf of the setting                          | Date for review                |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 | Karen Clarke – Manager<br>Michelle Wood – Deputy Manager | 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 |