

## INFECTION CONTROL POLICY

At Cranford Nursery Ltd we promote the good health of all children attending through maintaining high hygiene standards to help reduce the chances of infection being spread.

We follow the *Isle of Man Government Guidance on infection control in nurseries, schools, workplaces and day centres* which sets out when and how long children need to be excluded from settings, when treatment/medication is required and where to get further advice from.

**Below outlines details of our periods to be kept away from nursery for infections and illnesses.**

### **Infection or complaint**

**Diarrhoea and/or vomiting** 48 hours from the last episode

**Conjunctivitis** 24 hrs of eye drop medication or until the infection is clear

**Tonsillitis** Until the viral infection has cleared and child is well enough to return

**Impetigo** Until lesions are crusted and healed, or 48 hours after antibiotic treatment.

**Chickenpox** Child can return when all spots have scabbed over

**Head Lice** Treatment is required where live lice has been seen, once live lice have been treated the child can return to nursery.

**Threadworms** Treatment is required where Threadworm has been seen, once treated the child can return to nursery.

**German measles** 4 days from the onset of the rash

**Hand foot & mouth** 5 days or Until spots have gone

**Impetigo** 48 hours after antibiotics or lesions have crusted

**Ringworm** 24 hours following the onset of treatment

**Scarlet fever** 48 hours after antibiotics

**Slapped cheek** Until the infection has gone and child is well enough to return

**Covid- 19** 5 days following positive test result

**Flu** Until child feels well enough

**Whooping cough** 5 days from starting antibiotic treatment or 21 days from onset of illness

**Meningococcal meningitis** Until recovered

**Antibiotics** 24 hours after the child has had the first dose in case the child has an allergic reaction to the medicine.

The nursery will not administer medicine (unless it is life threatening medication such as an EpiPen or inhaler) therefore a child who is sick must not attend nursery. Please see our medicine policy for more information if needed.

**Parents are politely reminded to contact the nursery if your child is sick anytime between 8am and 5.30pm Monday to Friday. The nursery phone number is 676086 and staff will be available from 8am to discuss any illness with you.**

In addition:

Viruses and infections can be easily passed from person to person by breathing in air containing the virus, which is produced when an infected person talks, coughs or sneezes. It can also spread through hand/face contact after touching a person or surface contaminated with viruses therefore we follow the guidance below to prevent a virus or infection from spreading around the nursery. We ask parents to kindly keep their children at home if they are sick to help prevent the spread of viral infections and infectious diseases.

Our staff:

- Encourage all children to use tissues when coughing and sneezing to catch germs
- Ensure all tissues are disposed of in a hygienic way and all children and staff wash their hands once the tissue is disposed of
- Develop children's understanding of the above and the need for good hygiene procedures in helping them to stay healthy
- Wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when changing nappies, toileting children and dealing with any other bodily fluids. Staff are requested to dispose of these in the appropriate manner and wash hands immediately
- Clean and sterilise all potties and changing mats before and after each use
- Clean toilets daily and check them throughout the day
- Remind children to wash their hands before eating, after visiting the toilet, playing outside or being in contact with any animal and explain the reasons for this
- Clean all toys, equipment and resources on a regular basis by using antibacterial cleanser, or through the washing machine
- Store dummies in each individual child's bag to prevent cross-contamination with other children
- Provide labelled individual bedding for children that is not used by any other child and wash this at least once a week

- Avoid lots of people entering the nursery so we ask parents to wait at the front door at drop off and collection. (New parents are temporarily invited in whilst their child is settling).
- Where applicable wear specific indoor shoes or slippers whilst inside the rooms and encourage children to wear them too.
- Follow the sickness and illness policy when children are ill to prevent the spread of any infection in the nursery. Staff are also requested to stay at home if they are ill and/or are contagious.
- The nursery management retains the right of refusal of all children, parents, staff and visitors who are deemed contagious and may impact on the welfare of the rest of the nursery
- Parents will be made aware of the need for these procedures in order for them to follow these guidelines whilst in the nursery
- Periodically each room in the nursery will be deep cleaned including carpets and soft furnishings to ensure the spread of infection is limited. This will be implemented earlier if the need arises
- In the event of an infection outbreak the nursery will, where appropriate, undertake a deep clean to ensure the spread of infection is contained
- We will follow IOM Public health guidance, as well as informing them and our inspections team on any national outbreak of a virus/ pandemic and keep parents informed of any course of action. Each specific circumstance will differ and to ensure we take the most appropriate action; we will treat each case on an individual basis. It is our policy in a confirmed case of Covid, that staff and children will be required to stay away from nursery for a minimum of 5 days following the test result.
- In addition, where contagious outbreaks occur, we will adopt Government guidance for all visitors to minimise the risk of further spreading of the infection
- The nursery will ensure stocks of tissues, hand washing equipment, cleaning materials and sterilising fluid are maintained at all times. These will be increased during the winter months, or when flu and cold germs are circulating.

It is the responsibility of all staff to be aware of this policy and the responsibility of the management team to exclude children when necessary.

This policy was adopted by: Fiona Harcourt

Date of Policy update 05/01/23