**5.e Sickness and Infection**

**Policy statement**

Woolston preschool promotes the health of all our children through putting measures in place to prevent cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections. This is not always preventable due to the age of the children we care for however we follow the procedures below to minimise infections within preschool.

**Procedures for children who are sick or infectious**

* If a child becomes unwell during the session the leader will call, or ask another member of staff to call the parent/carer and ask them to collect the child, or send a known carer to collect. these can be some of the following symptoms as to why we may send children home, a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach
* If a child has a temperature, staff will try to cool the child by removing clothing and sitting with them for reassurance until the parents/ carers are able to collect them.
* In some cases we as a setting may call 111 for advice on how to best support the child and their symptoms until an parents/carer arrives
* In cases of emergency, an ambulance will be called and if the child should be taken to the nearest hospital the parent/carer is informed. On admission to the pre-school the parent/carer gives written consent for emergency medical treatment and for a child to be taken to the Accident and Emergency department of the hospital. -This is included in the registration form.
* The Manager may refuse admittance to children who have had calpol that day, have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
* Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, the pre-school asks parents/carers to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting.
* After diarrhoea or vomiting, parents/carers are asked to keep children home for 48 hours or until a formed stool is passed in the case of diarrhoea.
* The pre-school obtains details of infectious diseases and exclusion times as appropriate from the health protection agency. [www.hpa.org.uk](http://www.hpa.org.uk)

***Reporting of ‘notifiable diseases’***

* If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering from a notifiable disease under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency. This is therefore the responsibility of the GP not the preschool.
* However, when the preschool becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the leader will inform the chair of the management committee or in her/his absence another committee officer. Either the committee or the manager will then inform Ofsted.
* The committee or manager will seek the advice of the Health Protection Agency and act accordingly.

# ***HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure***

* HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis, (A, B and C) are spread through body fluids. The preschool staff may not be aware that a child is infected with HIV or Hepatitis and as such precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults and will be adhered to at all times. The procedure is as follows;
  + Single use vinyl gloves are worn when changing children’s nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
  + Protective rubber gloves are used for collecting clothing and putting in a bag for the parents to take home after changing.
  + Soiled clothing is bagged for parents to collect unless permission has previously been obtained and then they are thrown away along with dirty nappies.
  + Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using mild disinfectant solution and mops; any cloth’s used are bagged and disposed of.
  + Tables and other furniture, furnishings 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 the preschool may ask a parent/carer to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
* When the pre-school identifies a case of nits or head lice **all** parents/carers are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice. This is done by way of a standard text message or email.

**Useful telephone numbers**

* Ofsted 08456 404040
* Health Protection Authority

Local Health protection unit for Hampshire and I of W 0845 0552022

www.hpa.org.uk

[hiowhpu@hpa.org.uk](mailto:hiowhpu@hpa.org.uk)

**This policy was adopted at a meeting of Woolston Community Pre-School held on**

**03 May 2016**

**Reviewed December 2023**

**Role on committee: Nominated person**

Signed by

Date

Name of Signatory:

**Woolston Preschool manager**

Name Gemma Woodward

Date

Signature