



Sick Child Policy including Exclusion Periods 2024-2025

Enchanted Wood Preschool take the children's health and well-being as utmost importance and work with you as parents to ensure illnesses are managed and sick children not attend nursery.

Young children pass on infections readily because they are not able to cover their mouths when coughing, blow their own noses when they have a cold etc. They are therefore a source of infection to each other and the staff. Furthermore, if children are unwell or are in the process of recovering, they themselves are susceptible to contracting other infections that are present in the preschool environment and could also take it home to vulnerable members of their family.

Excluding sick children from the preschool maintains a healthy environment for everyone. The staff will decide whether to send a child home or not and advise to when they can return. This is of the best interests for the child, the other children, and the staff at the preschool.

Children with the following conditions will not be admitted to preschool:

- A raised temperature of over 38 degrees.
- An infection treated with antibiotics for less than 48 hours.
- Illnesses which are considered actively infectious or contagious such as Coronavirus, conjunctivitis, head lice, hand foot and mouth, croup, slap cheek, this is not a comprehensive list and other cases will be dealt with individually (please see full list below.)
- Sickness or diarrhoea within the last 48 hours.
- Any childhood diseases such as: Chicken Pox, Measles, Mumps, Rubella (German measles), Scarlet Fever (please see full incubation periods for these diseases)
- Any signs or symptoms of Covid-19, or within an isolation period.

If a child becomes unwell during a preschool session, we will follow the following procedures:

- Take the child's temperature (unless they have sickness and diarrhoea)
- Phone the parents, explain their child is unwell, let them know the symptoms and ask them to collect their child.
- One member of staff will sit with the child in a quiet area away from other children, until the parents arrive, we expect the child to be collected within an hour of being notified, if a parent can't collect within an hour, we will go through emergency contacts and parents should try emergency contacts too and should inform us of who will be collecting and supply that person with the child's password.
- Please update Parent Admin portal and mark you child as absent during any illness periods.

It is imperative that parents are proactive in keeping their contact details up to date and making sure there is always someone available to collect a sick child within a reasonable timescale.

Administration of Calpol/ Nurofen or Pain Relief (Pain Relief)

If a child needs Calpol to keep their temperature down in the morning, or to reduce pain, they are usually too poorly to attend preschool. This may mask illnesses or a temperature in the morning, but by lunch the medication has worn off and symptoms show. This has put other children at risk of infection. Therefore, parent's MUST inform staff if you have given Calpol to your child in the morning before they arrive, and staff will make an informed decision based on the information provided. This will usually mean the child CANNOT attend.

The preschool is able to administer Calpol in emergency situations when a child has a high temperature if the parent is going to take longer than 10 minutes to arrive to collect their child. This is only in emergency situations to regulate body temperature and prevent febrile convulsions. The amount of Calpol administered will relate to the amount stated on the packaging and according to your child's age in accordance with our policy.

We will not give Calpol for coughs or colds or as a preventative to catch an infection

Administration of Teething Powder

Teething powder may be administered to a child that is teething and is the preferred method of pain relief, as doesn't mask other symptoms. Permission must be given to apply teething powder in our 'Permissions and Consents' on our Parent Admin portal.

If teething pain does not subside after the teething powder or gel has been a parent phone call will be made to discuss the administration of one dose of Calpol (or pain relief.) If the child remains distressed or the fever does not subside after one hour of the Calpol (or pain relief) given, the parent will be called to collect the child.

Administration of Antihistamine (Allergy Relief)

Antihistamine may be administered in an emergency whilst your child is at preschool. This forms parts of our consents to give permission to administer antihistamine for children aged one years old or older. Parents will be contacted when antihistamines have been administered, and staff will monitor children's symptoms closely. If an allergic reaction does not subside, we will follow our emergency treatment policy.



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In event of an allergic reaction the preschool will administer Piriton or if symptoms get worse use their EpiPen or Jex Pen. This must be supplied by the parent and prescribed from the doctor, and MUST be in date, clearly showing the expiry date and child's name. In addition on the child's Care Plan and medical consent form, when and how much to administer. The parent should also inform the preschool when the last dose was administered if at home/ or a family member to relieve an allergic reaction. It is the parents' duty to have a meeting with the manager about allergies and together write up a care plan.

If a child has an allergic reaction for the first time the nursery will call you and administer Piriton. You will be required to collect them and seek medical advice in case of extreme allergic reactions.

Administration of Suntan Lotion

Suntan must be applied on sunny days prior to the child arriving at preschool. It is your responsibility to apply suntan lotion. Suntan lotion will be reapplied at lunch time for all day children. The preschool will use a 50+ sensitive cream. If your child has any allergies please provide your own cream in a named bottle. Permission must be given to apply suncream in our 'Permissions and Consents' on our Parent Admin portal.

Administration of Nappy Cream

Nappy cream must be provided from home if required in a named tube or tub. Nappy cream application will be in accordance with your home routine, if symptoms worsen, we will inform you and you may be advised to seek medical advice.

Antibiotics and Prescribed Medication

If your child is prescribed antibiotics, please keep them at home until 48 hours dosage has been administered in case of adverse reaction to the medication. Antibiotics and medicines will only be administered by Preschool staff after the child has been taking them for more than 48 hours at home, and only then with written permission from their parent on a Medical Form. Only medication prescribed by a doctor will be given at preschool and must have the child's full name, DOB and be in date.

Enchanted Wood Preschool Sickness Exclusion Periods

Enchanted Wood Preschool take the children's health and well-being as utmost importance and work with you as parents to ensure illnesses and allergies are managed and sick children not attend. Please notify the site manager of any absences due to sickness. We welcome the children back to preschool after their illness using the following exclusion periods:

Disease / Illness Minimum Exclusion Period

When given Calpol or Pain Relief: Generally, too unwell to attend preschool (may return after 24 hours if no symptoms and temperature)

When on Antibiotics: First two days at home (48 hours after first dose)

Chickenpox: 7 days from appearance of the rash

Conjunctivitis: 24 hrs at home with prescribed medication (can return when eyes are not weeping)

Sickness/ Diarrhoea: Strict 48 hrs at home after last bout of sickness or diarrhoea

Hand, foot and mouth: 5 days from the appearance of the blisters

Impetigo: Until the skin is healed, and treatment has been given for at least 48hrs

Headlice: Until appropriate treatment has been given and the hair is louse free.

Measles: 7 days from appearance of rash

Meningitis C: Until recovered from illness

Mumps: Until the swelling has subsided and, in no case less than 7 days from the start of treatment

'Fifth Disease' Parvovirus B19 (Slapped Cheek): 4 to 28 days, with the average being 16 to 17 days.

You must inform us if your child contracts Slapped Cheek, as is harmful to pregnant women

Rubella/ German Measles: 4 days from the appearance of the rash

Ringworm: Seldom necessary to exclude provided treatment is being given

Scarlet fever: No less than 3 days from the start of treatment

Whooping Cough: 21 days from the onset of paroxysmal cough

Croup: 3-4 days or until fever has gone

Coronavirus: Current government isolation period or if a parent/person or sibling in the household infected.

This is not a complete list- if you are unsure, please check with the Preschool.



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Contagious Disease

For the benefit of the other children in the nursery, you must not allow your child to attend the preschool if they are suffering from a contagious disease which could easily be passed on to another child during normal daily activities of the nursery.

The Preschool reserves the right to refuse to accept children until the Preschool is satisfied, they are not infectious. This is to protect other children from cross infection. The Preschool's exclusion policy is guided by the relevant local Authority.

If in doubt

If your child is suffering from a doubtful rash, sore throat, discharge from the eyes, nose, diarrhoea or any similar symptoms; please keep the child at home until the doctor has certified that the symptoms have disappeared.