

ILLNESS POLICY

My registration will not allow me to care for any child who is ill. This is a 'well-child' care facility. At no time do I provide care for children who are unwell.

- Under no circumstances may a parent bring a sick child for me to care for. I will not
 accept an unwell child who may present infection or hygiene issues towards other
 children in my care, including my own family.
- Any child with an infectious or notifiable disease must be kept at home (eg. measles, mumps, food poisoning). Please see infectious disease exclusion chart.
- Any child suffering from sickness and/or diarrhoea must be clear for 48 hours before returning to the childminding setting.
- I reserve the right not to accept an unwell child who may adversely affect the care I
 am able to offer to the other children in the setting, or any child who needs the
 emotional support of their parent/main carer during their illness
- If a child becomes ill whilst in the childminding setting, parents will be contacted and informed and a decision will be made whether it is appropriate for the child to be collected. (Confirmation of a notifiable disease will be reported to the Public Health Authority and OFSTED)
- Any sick child in the setting will be cared for according to first aid training and regulations. Medicines (either 'over the counter' or prescribed) cannot be administered without the prior written consent of parents. I will seek medical or professional opinions where necessary. (Please see my Emergency Policy for situations needing hospitalisation.)
- All absence due to the sickness of the child (or parent) will be payable in full.

Covid 19

Following the Coronavirus pandemic I have amended this policy to include the following clauses. I have done this in order to protect myself and my family and I hope you will understand.

For the foreseeable future I will be taking children's temperatures on the doorstep upon drop off. If a child has a temperature of 37.8 degrees or higher they will be asked to leave and only be accepted back to the setting after 7 days has passed and the temperature has returned to normal.

If a child shows any symptoms related to Covid 19 (see Government information on the symptoms) parents will be asked to collect immediately and the child will be kept separate to everyone else until collection. Government guidelines should then be followed by means of isolation for at least 7 days. If anyone in the family shows symptoms of Covid 19 the child should be kept in isolation for 14 days.

If a child contracts Covid 19 they will not be able to return to the setting for 2 weeks minimum, or until the child is well enough to return.

The relationship between myself and the parents of the children I look after is very much based on trust. Should I discover that someone in the immediate family has Covid 19 but I have not be informed, I will consider the trust has been broken and immediate notice will be given.

During this difficult and uncertain time where Covid 19 is still a big concern around the world, I will be taking all precautions in order to keep myself and the children safe. I will not be attending social playgroups or areas where social distancing cannot be observed for the time being. I will be getting my shopping delivered to the house and a high level of hygiene will be observed at all times. I will be staying isolated and undertaking social distancing until the government considers this is no longer necessary.

If I contract Covid 19 as a direct result of a child bringing it into the setting, and I have to close my business, I reserve the right to continue to charge half fees for as long as I need until I am completely better and able to work again.

It is uncertain whether there will be a return to lockdown following further waves of this virus but I reserve the right to charge half fees in the event that I am asked to close by the Government.

This also relates to any other type of pandemic that may arise in the future.

Sick children expose other children to the infection and require additional care and attention that I am unable to give. In my experience sick children want to be cared for by their parents in the comfort of their own home.

Linked to 1.4 EYFS Every Child Matters Also see Medicine Policy, First Aid Policy