



Allsorts Childcare Sickness Policy

Purpose

This policy outlines the procedures that will be followed for children who fall ill whilst in our care, or that parents should follow if their child is ill prior to attending Allsorts.

Allsorts believes that it is in the child's best interest to remain at home if they are unwell. By keeping your child at home when they are ill, it reduces the risk of the illness being spread to other children and staff.

If a child arrives at Allsorts and is deemed too unwell to be there, staff will call the parent/carer to come and collect the child. Children should not be attending if they have had paracetamol/Calpol before they come in.

Principles

Parents/carers will be informed if their child falls ill whilst at Allsorts. The child will be monitored and cared for until a responsible adult arrives to collect the child. If a parent cannot be contacted, then emergency contact numbers will be used to contact a responsible adult.

The next page of this policy details the circumstances in which a child would be sent home.

Parents and carers must keep their child away from the setting for 48 hours after the last occasion of any sickness or diarrhoea.

Parents must also observe exclusion times for infectious diseases such as chicken pox etc. These exclusion times can be found on the gov.uk website. Please check with Allsorts staff if you are unsure if your child needs to stay at home.

We will inform parents and carers of any infectious illnesses that occur within the settings so that they can observe their children for signs and symptoms of the illness. We will respect confidentiality by not naming any children who already have the illness.

Ofsted will be notified of any infectious diseases which are considered notifiable. Staff will contact GP's or Dorset Health protection agency for advice as and when needed.

Temperature

If a child has a temperature over 37.5c this will be recorded and their temperature taken again after 10 minutes, and a third time after another 10 minutes.

During this 10 minutes any additional layers of clothing will be removed (e.g. jumpers) in order to try and reduce the temperature and a drink will be offered.

If the temperature continues to rise the child's parent/carer will be called and advised the child be sent home.

If the parent/carer cannot get to the setting promptly to collect their child, the child may be given paracetamol suspension with the parent/carer's permission.

If a child's temperature is over 39c on the first recording, we will ring the parent/carer straight away.

If a child has a low temperature (below 35c) then we will monitor this every 10 minutes, as above. If the temperature does not rise then we will call parent/carers to collect the child as this could be a sign of hypothermia.

Diarrhoea

If a child has diarrhoea whilst at Allsorts, they will be closely monitored for any other symptoms of a bug.

If a child has a further episode of diarrhoea then they will sent home and the 48 hour exclusion rule applies.

Vomiting

If a child vomits whilst at Allsorts they will be sent home.

Sickness bugs are highly contagious and any child that has vomited should be kept at home for 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting.

Chicken pox

If a child is suspected of having chicken pox, they will need to be sent home.

Chicken pox is highly infectious and the child will not be able to return to the setting until all of the spots have scabbed over.

Generally unwell

If a child is generally unwell, for example not eating or very sleepy, Allsorts Staff will use their professional judgement to suggest that a child may need to go home.