Procedure if a child is ill

I may refuse entry to a child who is ill with an infectious disease that may threaten the health of my family, those placed in my care or myself. These conditions include fever, rash (indicating childhood diseases), vomiting, diarrhoea, earache, sore throat, head lice, threadworm, impetigo, chesty coughs, irritability, sleepiness or confusion.

Parents will provide any medications needed by the child, including over the counter and prescription medicine. All medicine provided must be in their original container, with pharmacists’ and/or manufacturer’s name, child’s name, dosage instructions, current date and times to be administered clearly written.

Parents will be required to give me written authorisation to administer any medicine, they must fill in a ‘Permission to Administer Medicine’ form and their signature will be required to acknowledge each dose of medicine. I will also sign and put the time I have administered the medicine.

Parents/emergency contacts will be contacted if a child becomes unwell during contracted hours. It is the responsibility of the parent to make sure their child is collected as soon as possible.

I am obliged to notify other parents in the event of a child in my care developing an infectious disease. If the disease is serious I must also inform the Care Inspectorate Wales. However, confidentially will remain at all times.

Coronavirus Pandemic

If your child, yourself, or anyone in your household are showing the following symptoms then your whole household should go into 10 days isolation.

Symptoms – The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

* New continuous cough and/or
* High temperature and/or
* Loss of taste/smell

Please follow the guidance on <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

As with all other illnesses and exclusion periods I will be following the same rules for myself and my family. Should Bethan become ill or show any of the symptoms, she will self-isolate at her house. I will remain open; however, as I need Bethan to remain in ratio, I will have to ask some families to keep their children at home. I will discuss this with you all should this situation arise.

Testing is now available for Covid-19. If you or your child have coronavirus symptoms, it is a good idea to book a test because in the event of a negative result your child will be allowed back into my setting before the 10 days isolation is up. To book a test either phone 119 or go online to <https://gov.wales/apply-coronavirus-covid-19-test>.

Track and Trace. If a test result comes back positive the NHS Track and Trace system will require me to provide contact details of all children who have been in touch with the person who is ill. Under the GDPR, this is a legal requirement for me to pass on family contact details.

Extended Symptom Testing for Covid-19 – testing has been made available in Ceredigion for those experiencing a wider range of symptoms. These are:

* Fatigue
* Muscle ache or pain
* Sore throat
* Headache
* Runny nose
* Nausea
* Vomiting
* Diarrhoea.

Individuals who take a test due to these wider set of symptoms do not need to isolate until the test results. However, please do take note of usual exclusions for these other symptoms such as 48 hours for vomiting and/or diarrhoea, and keeping a child at home if they feel unwell.

Further General Information

On the following page is a list of common childhood illnesses, their infectious period and the exclusion period from my care. Please note that if the child is physically unwell they should not be brought into my care.

Infection control is a vital issue in childcare settings. Children can potentially spend a large amount of time in childcare settings where there are frequent opportunities for the spread of infection. I follow the hygiene and cleaning routines outlined in “Infection, Prevention and Control for Childcare Settings (0-5 years)” (produced by Public Health Wales) to help to prevent infection and to keep your children safe and healthy.

Date this document was last reviewed – 17/05/2021

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| Disease or condition | Exclusion of case |
| Chickenpox | Exclude until fully recovered or for at least 5 days after eruption first appears. Note that some remaining scabs are not a reason for continued exclusion. |
| Conjunctivitis | Exclude until discharge from eyes ceases |
| Covid-19 | Exclude for 10 days from the onset of symptoms. |
| Croup | Exclude until child is well (3-4 days usually) |
| Diarrhoea | Exclude until 48 hours after diarrhoea ceases |
| Hand, foot and mouth | Exclude until well |
| Influenza and influenza like illnesses | Exclude until well |
| Measles | Exclude for at least five days after the onset of the rash |
| Meningitis (bacterial) | Exclude until well |
| Meningococcal infection | Exclude until adequate carrier eradication therapy has been completed |
| Mumps | Exclude for nine days or until swelling goes down (whichever is sooner) |
| Rubella (German measles) | Exclude until fully recovered or for at least four days after the onset of the rash |
| School sores (impetigo) | Exclude until 48 hours after appropriate treatment has commenced. Any sores on exposed surfaces should be covered with a watertight dressing |
| Shingles | Exclude until blisters have dried up unless the rash can be covered by a dressing to avoid contact with others |
| Streptococcal sore throat (including Scarlet fever) | Exclude until the person has received antibiotic treatment for at least 24 hours and the person feels well |
| Tuberculosis (TB) | Exclude until medical certificate is produced from appropriate health authority |
| Vomiting | Exclude until 48 hours after vomiting ceases |
| Whooping cough (pertussis) | Exclude for five days after starting antibiotic treatment |

**Note:** It is recommended that children who are physically unwell should be excluded from attending school, preschool and child care centres.