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.

Please Note: With all illnesses I follow the same exclusion periods for myself and my family. This means that should I become ill with any illness on the following list, I will have to close the setting until I am well. Should any of my family become ill, I will make the decision on whether to close or not, taking into consideration the current guidance for that illness, along with the ability of the family member to isolate away from the childminding children.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

We have now reached a point where Covid-19 is being treated just like any other infectious illness. As with other illnesses I ask that should your child have Covid-19 you notify me and keep your child at home for 5 days. I will be following the same rules for myself and if a member of my family has it they will isolate themselves from the children. I no longer need to inform CIW of an isolated case of Covid-19, but should more than one case happen in my setting I will need to let them now.

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 – 25/02/2023

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| Disease or condition | Exclusion of case |
| Chickenpox | Exclude for at least 5 days after eruption first appears or until the last spot has crusted over. Note that some remaining scabs are not a reason for continued exclusion. |
| Conjunctivitis | Exclude until discharge from eyes ceases |
| Covid-19 | Exclude for 5 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 |