

Developing a procedure for children who are ill or have an infectious

The provider must promote the good health, including the oral health, of the children they look after. They must have a procedure, which must be discussed with parents and/or carers, for taking appropriate action if children are ill or infectious.

This procedure must also cover the necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents and/or carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill – **Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2025 GP3.59 & CM3.59**

The policy should include:

- The exclusion periods for children with infectious disease (in line with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA))
- Your policy should reflect what your own exclusion periods are in line with protecting yourself, staff and other children and families.
- The steps to be taken if a child becomes ill whilst at the setting, for example:
 - The advice given to parents around taking the child home and seeking medical advice.
 - Staff to wear protective clothing and to isolate the child from other children to stop the cross infection.
 - How parents should inform the setting of the medical diagnosis and any exclusion period if applicable.
- Who is responsible for informing the UKHSA and Ofsted of any notifiable disease as stated within the health protection in schools and other childcare facilities guidance:

[Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-protection-in-children-and-young-people-settings-including-education)

- Timescales to notify Ofsted and the UKHSA of food poisoning affecting two or more children looked after on the premises (Ofsted - as soon as reasonably practicable but certainly within 14 days)
- How parents will be informed of any outbreak or a single case of an infectious/notifiable disease
- How the setting will support any vulnerable children or adults.
- The importance of following hygiene routines in the setting and how the setting will carry out 'deep cleans' as advised by the UKHSA following an outbreak of an infectious/notifiable disease.
- The importance of carrying out personal hygiene routines with children to help eliminate the risk of cross contamination.

How you will maintain confidentiality, however some details will need to be shared with the relevant agencies including Public Health, DfE, Ofsted or Childminder agency and the Local Authority Early Education and ChildcareTeam.

The policy should be reviewed:

- Whenever changes to legislation are produced.
- At least annually.
- If any changes are made to the policy when reviewed the staff and parents need to be informed.

Please see list below for reading material for reference only:

Department of Health – www.gov.uk or tel: 020 7210 4850

Health Security Agency – www.hpa.org.uk Telephone: 0300 303 0234

NHS Choices – www.nhs.uk

Local contact numbers:

Doncaster Royal Infirmary – 01302 366666

Local Authority (Environmental Health) – 01302 736000 – www.doncaster.gov.uk

Ofsted – 0300 123 4666

<https://www.report-childcare-incident.service.gov.uk/serious-incident/childcare/>

The DfE helpline - 0800 046 8687

The Local Authority Public Health team

01302 734581 or email: publichealthenquiries@doncaster.gov.uk

This information is provided for guidance only. It is your responsibility to ensure that all statutory legal guidance is adhered to. Consideration needs to be given to any changes in legislation subsequent to the production of this information.