



Joint Headteachers: Ms Danielle Boder-Cohn & Mrs Daniella Spector

Lower Gan

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Upper Gan

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Sick Child Policy

Rational

Bushey Ganim recognises its responsibility to promote a culture where health issues are discussed in an open and positive way to achieve high standards. The health and well being of all the children is of paramount importance to enable them to learn.

In order to maintain a clean and healthy environment for all children we ask that you refrain from bringing your child to the nursery if he/she is sick and/or displaying signs of illness.

Purposes

- To ensure sick children are identified
- To ensure sick children are cared for appropriately
- To protect children and adults from preventable infection
- To enable staff and parents to be clear about the requirements and procedures when children are unwell

Guidelines

If a child is thought to be unwell within the setting it is important to assess the condition of the child. This will be done in a kind and caring manner. The child may be distressed, so it is important to be calm and reassuring. The Head Teachers should be informed of any sick children.

We understand the needs of working parents and do not aim to exclude children from the nursery unnecessarily. However the decision of the Head Teachers is final when requesting the exclusion of a child for illness or infection. Decisions will take into account the needs of the child as well as the needs of others within the nursery.

Children with infectious or contagious diseases will be excluded for certain periods. If staff suspects that a child has an infectious or contagious disease, they will request that parents consult a doctor before returning the child to the Nursery.

Should a child become ill whilst at nursery, the Head Teachers/Key Teacher will contact the parent or an emergency contact. While awaiting the arrival of parents, the staff will ensure the comfort of the child, taking appropriate action, which would include seeking medical advice if necessary. If the child is in danger, the staff will seek medical advice immediately.

Staff will report any worries about a child's health to the parents/guardians immediately. Parents are responsible for keeping the Nursery informed about the child's health. A call to keep us informed would be appreciated.

No child may attend the nursery while suffering from one of the communicable diseases and they should be excluded for the minimum periods recommended. Please see guidelines to illness / communicable diseases.

Coughs and colds do not normally require the child to be excluded but this depends on the severity and how the child is able to cope with the nursery day. **Children with heavy coughs and colds should not be brought into nursery as they will not benefit from being at Nursery if they are under the weather. A child who is, or who appears to be unwell may be refused admission.**

If your child is on antibiotics, please make sure you keep them at home for the first 48 hours of taking the medicine. If they are well enough to return, we cannot administer antibiotic during the morning session and parents should ensure doses are given before or after Nursery. Children staying a full day should complete a form for administering medicine at lunch time, however, if your child is unwell, they should not be at nursery.

Although exposure of children to a communicable disease is not in itself sufficient reason to require their exclusion from nursery, any child who comes into contact with diphtheria, poliomyelitis, typhoid and paratyphoid fevers will be excluded.

A child who has sickness or diarrhoea whilst at the nursery is to be collected immediately and kept away for 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

Parents will always be contacted and informed if their child has a high temperature of 101F / 38C or above.

To prevent the spread of conjunctivitis, suspected cases will be reported immediately to parents who will be requested to take their child from nursery to be seen by a doctor.

Chicken Pox – children need to be absent from nursery for a minimum of 5 days from the onset of the rash. After this time, if all the spots have dried and scabbed over, the child can return to nursery. Parents will also be contacted if their child develops a rash or suspected thrush. This will need to be checked by a doctor whose advice should be followed.

If your child has not been his / her normal self at home but is not showing signs of illness when brought to nursery, please mention it to the staff and let them know how best to contact you throughout the day. Should the Head Teachers or Deputies consider the illness / situation to warrant immediate medical attention, the emergency services will be contacted to take the child directly to Hospital and the parent / guardian notified accordingly.

Nits and head lice are not excludable conditions, although in some cases a parent may be asked to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared. On identifying cases of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to treat their children and all the family if they are found to have head lice.

This following list is advisory and should not be considered exhaustive.

In addition, we reserve the right to consult the NHS Direct website for further advice and information.

* denotes diseases which must be reported to Health Protection Agency and OFSTED (Public Health Infectious Diseases Regulations 1988).

Disease / Illness	Minimal Exclusion Period
Diarrhoea / Vomiting Illnesses	
Diarrhoea / Vomiting	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting
E.coli 0157 VTEC	Exclusion is important for some children - consult with your local Health Protection Unit
Typhoid* [and Paratyphoid*] (Enteric Fever)	Exclusion is important for some children - consult with your local Health Protection Unit
Shigella (Dysentery)	Exclusion may be necessary

Disease / Illness	Minimal Exclusion Period
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Rashes / Skin Infections	
Athletes Foot	Is not a serious condition but treatment is recommended
Chicken Pox	Excluded for 5 days from the onset of the rash
Cold Sores (Herpes Simplex)	No exclusion necessary
German Measles (Rubella)*	Excluded for 5 days from the onset of the rash
Impetigo	Excluded until lesions are crusted or healed
Measles*	Excluded for 5 days from the onset of the rash
Molluscum Contagiosum	No exclusion necessary
Ringworm	Excluded until treatment commences
Roseola (Infantum)	No exclusion necessary
Scabies	Excluded until first treatment
Scarlet Fever*	Excluded for 5 days after commencing antibiotics
Slapped Cheek / Fifth Disease Parvovirus B19	No exclusion necessary
Shingles	Excluded until treated
Warts & Verrucae	No exclusion necessary

Respiratory Infections	
'Flu' (Influenza)	Excluded until recovered
Tuberculosis*	Consult with your local Health Protection Unit
Whooping cough* (Pertussis)	Excluded for five days from commencing anti-biotic treatment or 21 days from onset of illness if no antibiotic treatment