



## Managing children who are sick, infectious, or with allergies

St Marks Pre-school aims to provide care for healthy children through preventing cross-infection of viruses and bacterial infections and to promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic trigger.

### Procedures for children who are sick and infectious

#### Sickness and diarrhoea

- If children develop sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach, the Pre-school Manager will call the parents and ask them to collect the child, or to send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.
- After diarrhoea or sickness, the pre-school will ask parents to keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.

#### Temperature

- If a child has a temperature, a temperature is taken using a digital forehead thermometer which is kept in the first aid box. As high temperatures in young children can lead to febrile convulsions triggered by the body temperature rising rapidly above 38c, Calpol/Nurofen will be administered to children who have a low grade or high temperature.
- Each time Calpol/Nurofen is given, the pre-school procedure for administering medication will be adhered to. The pre-school will always endeavour to contact a parent/guardian on the phone to advise them that Calpol/Nurofen will be/has been administered their child in the following circumstances:

C	F	What this means	What to do
36-37.2	96.8-99.0	Normal temperature	No action required
37.4-37.8	99.3-110.1	Low grade fever	Contact parents, administer Calpol/Nurofen and monitor child. Child must be collected within an hour.
38-39.9	110.4-103.3	High fever	Administer Calpol or Nurofen, contact parents to request immediate collection.

Calpol will be administered as per the guidelines set out by Calpol as per the age of the child

Child's age	How much - up to 4 times a day
2-4 years	7.5ml
4-6 years	10 ml

Nurofen will be administered as per the guidelines set out by Nurofen as per the age of the child

Child's age	How much - up to 3 times in 24 hours
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1-3 years	5mls max 3 times in 24 hours
4-6 years	7.5ml max 3 times in 24 hours

Children will be sent home if they develop a fever at pre-school and/or have had Calpol/Nurofen administered. The pre-school reserves the right to refuse future admittance if the pre-school has had to administer Calpol for two consecutive days or Nurofen for more than one day and will request parents seek a GP appointment.

- In the event of a child having a febrile convulsion, an ambulance will be called and the parent informed immediately

#### **Preventative measures**

- the pre-school can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- The pre-school has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is obtainable from [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/658736/Exclusion\\_table.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/658736/Exclusion_table.pdf) and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.
- Some activities, such as sand and water play, and self-serve snacks where there is a risk of cross-contamination, may be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.

#### **Antibiotics**

- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, the pre-school will ask parents to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting, with the exception of any condition that means that a child may well be on long-term antibiotics.

#### ***Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'***

- If a child or adult is diagnosed as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the GP will report this to Public Health England.
- When St Marks Pre-school becomes aware, or is formally informed of, the notifiable disease, the Pre-school Manager will inform Ofsted and contact Public Health England, and act on any advice given.

#### ***HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure***

HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis A, B and C, is spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults. All practitioners at St Marks Pre-school will:

- Wear single-use vinyl gloves and aprons when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Double bag soiled clothing for parents to take home for cleaning.
- Clear spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit using mild disinfectant solution and mops; any cloths used are disposed of with the clinical waste.

- Clean any tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit using a disinfectant.

### ***Nits and head lice***

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition; although in exceptional cases the pre-school may ask a parent to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, the Pre-school Manager/Room Leader will inform the parents of the case and ask them to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.

### ***Procedures for children with allergies***

- As part of the settling process at St Marks Pre-school the Key Person will ask parents if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Registration Form.
- If a child has an allergy, the Pre-school Manager will complete a risk assessment form to detail the following:
  - the allergen;
  - the nature of the allergic reactions;
  - what to do in case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how it is to be used; and
  - control measures – such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen
  - review measures
- This risk assessment form is stored in an appropriate personal file in the office and an action plan is developed, a copy of which will be displayed where the practitioner team can see it and/or in the emergency medication pouch for that child.
  - A health care plan will be developed in conjunction with medical professionals as appropriate: this will be reviewed on a six-monthly or annual basis as appropriate.
- St Marks Pre-school does not allow any nuts or nut products to be consumed or used within the setting.
- Parents are made aware so that no nuts or nut products are accidentally brought in, and reminder slips are put in children's lunchboxes as necessary.

### ***Insurance requirements for children with allergies and disabilities***

- As necessary, St Marks Pre-school's insurance will include children with any disability or allergy, but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below. For children suffering life-threatening conditions, or requiring invasive treatments, written confirmation from the pre-school's insurance provider must be obtained to extend the insurance.
- At all times St Marks Pre-school will ensure that the administration of medication is compliant with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Oral medication (including asthma inhalers):

- Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.
- St Marks Pre-school must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.
- The pre-school will adhere to all risk assessment procedures for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
- The pre-school must have the parent's or guardian's prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file.

***Life-saving medication and invasive treatments***

- These include adrenaline auto-injectors for anaphylactic shock reactions. The pre-school must have:
  - a letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication if any is to be administered.
  - written consent from the parent or guardian allowing trained practitioners to administer medication; and
  - proof of training in the administration of such medication during the First Aid Qualification course that pre-school practitioners complete.
- Where a child has special needs requiring assistance with tubes to help them with everyday living, e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags, etc. The pre-school must have:
  - Prior written consent obtained from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
  - Practitioners who have the relevant medical training/experience, which will include receiving appropriate instructions from an appropriate medical professional.

**Exceptional operating circumstances:**

During the current pandemic, the pre-school will remain alert to the symptoms of COVID-19. If a child develops a temperature of 37.8 c or above, Calpol/Nurofen will be administered but parents will be contacted and asked to:

- collect their child immediately
- book a COVID-19 test
- self-isolate as a family until the test result is known
- inform the pre-school of the test result immediately

This policy was adopted at a meeting of the pre-school held on ..... (date)

Signed on behalf of the pre-school .....