



## Sick Child Policy

Reviewed date: January 2024

At Bidborough Village Nursery School, we believe that children need to be healthy and well to fully benefit from their nursery experience. Children who are unwell should stay at home with their parents/carers to prevent the spread of illness to others in the nursery. While we understand the challenges for working parents, the health and safety of all our children are paramount, and the nursery's decision regarding the exclusion of a child due to illness is final.

### Procedures for Unwell Children at the Nursery

- **Immediate Care:** Should a child become unwell while at nursery, we will ensure a comfortable area is set up for them to rest. This includes making up a bed for the child to lie down if necessary.
- **Infectious Diseases:** If a child is diagnosed with an infectious disease during a nursery session, parents/carers will be notified immediately and asked to collect their child as soon as possible.
- **Exclusion Periods:** Children with infectious or contagious diseases will need to be excluded for specific periods to prevent the spread of infection. We may request that parents consult a doctor and obtain medical clearance before the child returns to the nursery.
- **Sickness and Diarrhoea:** A child exhibiting symptoms of sickness or diarrhoea at the nursery must be collected immediately. They should not return to the nursery until 48 hours have passed since the last episode.

### Guidelines for Illness Prior to Attending Nursery

- **Notification:** Parents are required to inform the nursery as soon as possible if their child may have an infectious disease so that we can notify other parents/carers.
- **Infectious Period:** Children cannot return to the nursery until they are no longer infectious to avoid contaminating others.
- **Admission Decisions:** Admission of a child with an illness will be judged on a case-by-case basis, with the final decision resting with the Nursery Owner and/or Manager. We ask parents to understand that the nursery is not an appropriate place for a sick child in need of one-to-one care, which we are unable to provide.

### Commitment to Health and Safety

This policy is designed to ensure the health and safety of all children attending Bidborough Village Nursery School. It is reviewed regularly to reflect current best practices and public health guidance. Our priority is to provide a safe and nurturing environment for every child, which sometimes necessitates difficult decisions regarding the exclusion of unwell children.