



First Aid and Disease Control Policy



**CULMSTOCK
PRE-SCHOOL
PLAYGROUP**

If your child is unwell

In the course of a child's school life it is inevitable that they will come into contact with a number of viral diseases such as Chicken Pox, or a cold virus. We advocate a 'prevention is better than cure' approach, and recommend that children who are very unwell do not attend pre-school.

Should you arrive at pre-school and your child is deemed to unwell to attend the supervisor will not admit your child to pre-school. In some instances your child may seem well enough, but due to the nature of infectious diseases they are still deemed unfit to attend such as in the 48 hours following a bout of diarrhoea or vomiting.

Please call the supervisor on 01884 849332 and inform them of your child's illness. You will be required to sign an absence form when your child returns to confirm the nature of absence; any absence due to illness or to visit a health professional are 'authorised' absences and will not affect your funding for pre-school.

National Epidemic/Pandemic

If your child develops flu-like symptoms you should stay at home and phone your family doctor or NHS Direct (0845 4647). A clinical member of staff will assess you by phone, and further investigations and/or treatment will be arranged if necessary. Please inform the pre-school if Swine Flu is confirmed.

If your child becomes unwell at pre-school

If a child becomes very unwell at preschool then the parent will be immediately informed. The parent may be required to pick the child up from preschool if the staff see the child is not fit for preschool or may infect other children. Parents sign a consent form at registration allowing staff to take their child to the nearest Accident and Emergency unit to be examined, treated or admitted as necessary on the understanding that parents have been informed and are on their way to the hospital – such instances are extremely rare.

Reasons for parents to collect their child:

- If the child has a temperature or sickness and diarrhoea, or who have obvious symptoms of an infectious disease e.g chicken pox spots.
- Children with head lice are not excluded, but parents will be advised to treat the condition (see notes on head lice below)

Parents will be notified of any health related conditions of which they should be aware including:

- A case of head lice in the setting (see below)
- An infectious disease such as chicken pox.

Parents will be informed in general terms by use of the white notice board in the lobby, ensuring that a child's confidentiality is maintained.

Staff practices regarding sick children

- Good hygiene practice concerning the clearing of any spilled bodily fluids is carried out at all times.
- Ofsted is notified of any infectious diseases that a qualified medical person considers notifiable (see Accident and Incident Policy).

Treating Head Lice

If we suspect that the child has head lice we inform the child's parent in confidence and ask that they treat the problem before their child returns to the pre-school. We then inform all parents that we have a case of head lice in the pre-school and ask that all parents check their own children's hair before they return, and treat where appropriate. Staff will also be informed and will check their own hair before their next session.

The supervisor will be happy to help and advise as necessary on treatment options. If the problem persists and the parent still does not treat the problem, the staff will treat the matter as a case of neglect and follow the procedures in the child protection policy.

If your child becomes injured at Pre-School

At least one member of staff with current first aid training is on the premises or on an outing at any time. The first aid qualification includes first aid training for infants and young children.

While all risks of injury are minimised through risk assessments, planning and careful supervision it is inevitable that the odd bump can occur. These are usually harmless and there no need for any medical intervention, just a little tender loving care and sympathy. However small a bump may appear we make a point of noting all incidents and ensuring that parents/carers are fully informed of such incidents when collecting their children.

In the very rare event that a child has a bump/fall or other event leading to injury which is deemed to require care our first aid trained staff member(s) will administer first aid as necessary and call the parent if necessary. Where it becomes necessary the staff member will call for an ambulance and accompany the child to A&E should the parent not have arrived in time to do so themselves.

A report of the accident is made in our accident book and where necessary the relevant authorities will be notified (please refer to our Accident and Incident Policy for further detail)

Our first aid kit:

- complies with the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981;
- is regularly checked by a designated member of staff and re-stocked as necessary;
- is easily accessible to adults; and
- is kept out of the reach of children.

