**Managing children who are sick**

**Policy Statement**

We provide care for healthy children through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections and promote health through identifying allergies and prevent contact with the allergenic substances.

**Procedures for children who are sick or infectious**

° If children appear unwell during the day – have a temperature, sickness, diarrhea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – the manager or deputy will call the parents and ask them to collect the child, or send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.

° If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing, offering a cold drink of water.

° The child’s temperature is taken using a thermometer, kept in the first aid box.

° In extreme cases of emergency, an ambulance will be called and the child taken to the nearest hospital and the parents informed

° In the circumstances of infectious illnesses such as diarrhea, sickness, chicken pox and any other infectious illnesses the parents will be informed of the incubation period recommended by the nhs. The setting can refuse admittance if this is not met.

Nits and headlice

° Nits and headlice are not an excludable condition, although in exceptional 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 child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.

Procedures for children with allergies

° When parents start their children at the preschool they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Registration form and noted on the allergy list in the kitchen and when necessary on their snack name card.

° All staff are made aware of the children’s allergies when the child starts.

° Parents train staff on how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction or training is obtained through a medical professional.

Oral medication

Asthma inhalers are now regarded as oral medication.

° Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP.

° The setting must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication. Medication forms are provided.

° All risk assessment procedures need to be adhered to for the correct storage and administration of the medication.

° The preschool must have the parents or guardians prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file.

Life saving medication and invasive treatments

Adrenaline injections (Epipens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs, bee stings etc) or invasive treatments such as rectal administration of diazepam (for epilepsy)

The provider must have

° a letter from the child’s GP/Consultant stating the child’s condition and what medication if any is to be administered.

° proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child’s GP, a district nurse, children’s nurse specialist or a community pediatric nurse.