



LISAL

LANCASTER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
FOR ALTERNATIVE LEARNING

Ill or Infectious Child Policy and Procedure

Version date: January 2024

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Statement of Intent:

This policy was first adopted by Appledore Montessori Ltd. This guidance will also be followed by the Early Years team at LISAL. We want LISAL and Appledore Montessori Ltd, at all times, to work for the benefit of each individual child, but also to operate as a group for the well being of all. It is the policy of the setting to encourage and promote good health and hygiene and provide a safe environment for all the children in our care.

Aims:

We aim to be vigilant in the monitoring of the children for signs and symptoms of communicable diseases. With the welfare of sick children in mind, we then consider action to safeguard the remaining children in the setting. If a member of staff regards a child as ill, the key person will then refer to the EY Lead or Manager for a second opinion. It is at this stage that it may be necessary at some time to ask for a child to be withdrawn from the group. This will involve a member of staff contacting the parents/carers, and requesting that the child be removed as soon as possible, during this period we care for the child in a quiet, calm area with their key person, wherever possible:-

- If the staff member is unable to contact a parent the emergency contact details will be tried.
- If unsuccessful in attempting to contact either parent or emergency contact the child will be isolated from other children in the setting.
- In the event of a serious accident or illness the child's parents/carers will be informed. If unable to contact the parents/carers a senior member of staff will escort your child to hospital, with all relevant information. The staff will continue to contact the parents/carers.
- We follow the guidance given to us by Public Health England and advice from our local health protection unit on exclusion times for specific illnesses such as sickness and diarrhoea, measles and chickenpox.
- All parents on commencing at Appledore Montessori Ltd will receive an information leaflet on exclusion periods, this includes information on common childhood illnesses. This guidance will also be shared with the Early Years families at LISAL.
- If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering from a notifiable disease this will be reported to Ofsted and the Health Protection Agency.
- Children appearing unwell and displaying a higher temperature than is normal for that child, will be given an age appropriate dose of Calpol or an alternative provided for a specific individual child, only if parental consent has been obtained and only where staff are assured that no other dose has been administered within the last 4 hours. Where staff require clarification parents will be contacted.

- Where children are prescribed antibiotics parents are asked to keep them at home for 24 hours before returning to the Centre
- Where children have had an episode of sickness and or diarrhoea parents are asked to keep their child at home for 48 hours or until a formed stool is passed.
- We thoroughly clean and sterilise all equipment and resources that may have come into contact with a contagious child to reduce the spread of infection.

Nits and Head Lice:

- On identifying cases of head lice the parent will be informed and requested to treat their child as soon as possible, no period of exclusion is necessary.
- Parents with children attending the classroom where the case has been located will be advised via a poster on the door requesting that they check their own child's hair and treat if necessary.

Allergies

When a child starts at our setting the application form requests information regarding allergies. We ask parents to share all information about allergic reactions and allergies on their child's registration form and to inform staff of any allergies discovered after registration.

In the case of an allergy being identified a meeting would be arranged between the parents and SENCO (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator). During this meeting a long term care plan and if required medicine form would be completed. It is necessary to get the care plan countersigned by a Health Care practitioner.

The plan identifies the allergy, the cause, the signs and symptoms and the treatment required. It further details parent contact information.

Both settings will work together to ensure a child with specific food allergies receives no food that may harm them. Seating will be monitored for children with allergies. Where appropriate, staff deemed will sit with children who have allergies and where age/stage appropriate staff will discuss food allergies and the potential risks.

If required staff will receive appropriate training in administering medication. The form is kept in the child's file.

Meningitis procedure

If a parent informs the setting that their child has meningitis the Manager or Deputy will contact the Health Protection unit (HPU). The Health Protection Unit will give guidance and support in each individual case. If parents do not inform the setting, we would be contacted by the HPU and the appropriate support will be given. We will follow all guidance given and notify the appropriate authorities including Ofsted if necessary.