

The Unwell Child in Nursery

Children often become ill in nursery or early symptoms of an illness which started at home may become more pronounced during the course of the session.

Management of the Sick Child

While symptoms vary according to the nature of the illness there are certain symptoms that should always give rise to suspicion that a person is suffering from an infectious disease. These include diarrhoea and/or vomiting, high temperature, shivering and rash or skin spots.

- Segregate the child, as far as possible from others in the class, but do not leave the child alone in a room without adult supervision.
- Designate a toilet for sole use by the sick child.
- Contact the parents/carers and ask for the child to be collected where appropriate
- Ask the child to cover nose and mouth when coughing
- Cover skin lesions which are discharging with a waterproof dressing
- Teaching, staff and other children should wash their hands after touching the ill child or coming into contact with blood or bodily fluids. An apron should be applied to the adult
- Medical rooms must be cleaned and disinfected after use and after any contamination of the area with bodily fluids.
- The child should remain from nursery until the exclusion period has passed for the illness that they have.

Children Act Regulations – you must notify OFSTED of any communicable diseases as defined by the Health Protection Agency.