



Early Learning and Childcare Centre

FIRST AID POLICY

Ferryfield staff are expected to hold current a First Aid Certificate (occasionally there is a small lapse whilst First Aid courses are being sourced). Staff are provided with the opportunity to keep their First Aid Certificates current when vacant courses are available.

- A suitable First Aid box always available in Ferryfield.
- The First Aid box is kept in the cupboard in the small playroom, all staff members know where the First Aid box is kept and are able to access it at all times.
- The First Aid box is kept well stocked with appropriate items, it is checked regularly to ensure all items are within their use by date.
- Minor bumps etc will be dealt with immediately by trained staff.
- All accidents and incidents are record on the appropriate forms and copies are offered to parents.
- When outside Ferryfield there is a small First Aid Kit kept in the outdoor bag and again minor bumps etc will be dealt with immediately by trained staff.

Major accidents or incidents will be assessed by trained staff and appropriate First Aid administered until professional assistance arrives.

- Only staff that are trained and hold a current First Aid qualification will provide initial first aid in a major accident situation.
- A staff member will contact the emergency services and any advice or information they give will be followed.
- In a major accident situation a staff member will ensure that the uninjured children are safe and secure. This may result in temporarily exceeding the adult:child ratio's (set by Care Inspectorate), however if other children are safe, the priority has to be given to the incident and the correct ratio levels will be returned to as soon as is possible.
- If the adult:child ratio is going to be exceeded for a significant amount of time the parents of the unaffected children may be called and asked to collect their children.

Administration of medication for normal childhood illnesses

Ferryfield do not hold communal Antipyretics (temperature reducing medicine – like paracetamol or ibuprofen) and will not normally administer the above, due to children being 'unwell', as children that are not well should be at home.

- A fever is a high temperature. As a general rule, in children, a temperature of over 37.5°C is a fever.

- Most fevers are caused by infections or other illnesses. A fever helps the body to fight infections by stimulating the immune system (the body's natural defence against infection and illness).
- By increasing the body's temperature, a fever makes it more difficult for the bacteria and viruses that cause infections to survive. Traditional conditions that can cause fevers include:
 - ear infections
 - flu
 - roseola (a virus that causes a temperature and rash)
 - tonsillitis
 - kidney or urinary infections
 - common childhood illnesses, such as measles, mumps, chickenpox and whooping cough.
 - a child's temperature can also be raised during teething (when the teeth start to develop),
 - following vaccinations
 - overheating due to too much bedding or clothing.
- If the child seems to be well, other than having a high temperature - for example, if they are playing and attentive, it is less likely that they are seriously ill.
- Antipyretic (temperature reducing medicine – like paracetamol or ibuprofen) will not be routinely used for the sole aim of reducing body temperature, in children with a fever who is otherwise well.
- If a child has a fever, Ferryfield staff will keep them well hydrated by giving them plenty of cool water to drink. Even if the child isn't thirsty, staff will try to get them to drink little and often to keep their fluid levels up.
- We will open the windows in Ferryfield and try to lower the room temperature to 18°C (65°F)
- If the child's temperature remains high, staff will undress the child to their underwear (using a sheet to keep them covered).
- If the child appears unwell the parents will be called and ask to collect their child.

Urgent medical advice will be sought if the child is:

- over six months and shows other signs of being unwell - for example, they are floppy and drowsy or if staff are concerned about them.
- Febrile seizures (fits) can occur in children that have a fever (a temperature of 38°C/101°F or above) that occurs as a result of an infection or inflammation. They normally occur in children aged between six months and five years, with most cases happening between six months and three years.
- Although not a common condition, febrile seizures are not particularly rare either. It is estimated that 2-5% of all children will have a least one febrile seizure. Febrile seizures can be very frightening for parents, but they look much worse than they actually are. They cause no serious damage to the child, and the risks of long-term complications are extremely low. In the UK, there have never been any deaths due to febrile seizures.

Antipyretic agents such as paracetamol or ibuprofen do not prevent febrile seizures and should not be used specifically for this purpose

Adopted by the Committee

Date

August 2016