

# BEE ACTIVE

## Sickness and exclusion Policy

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### **Introduction:**

At Bee Active Childcare, the health and well-being of every child in our care is of utmost importance. To maintain a safe and healthy environment for all children, we have established this Child Sickness and Exclusion Policy. This policy outlines guidelines for illness management, including when children should be excluded from attending our setting to prevent the spread of contagious diseases.

### **Illness Management:**

**Parental Responsibility:** Parents or guardians are responsible for ensuring their child is in good health before bringing them to our settings. It is important to communicate any signs of illness or recent exposure to contagious diseases to our staff.

**Symptom Monitoring:** Our staff will monitor children throughout the day for signs of illness, including but not limited to fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, rash, persistent cough, and unusual fatigue. If any of these symptoms are observed, parents will be notified immediately.

## Exclusion Criteria

Children will be excluded from attending the setting under the following circumstances:

- a. **Fever:** A child with a fever (temperature of 100.4°F/38°C or higher) should not attend until they have been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- b. **Vomiting and Diarrhoea:** Children who have vomited or had diarrhoea should be kept at home until they have been symptom-free for at least 48 hours. If a child has an episode of vomiting or diarrhoea whilst in the setting, they will need to be collected to prevent the infection spreading.
- c. **Contagious Diseases:** Children diagnosed with contagious diseases (e.g., chickenpox, strep throat, conjunctivitis) should remain at home until they are no longer contagious, as determined by a healthcare professional or in accordance with local health guidelines.
- d. **Unexplained Rash:** If a child has an unexplained rash, they should be excluded until a healthcare professional confirms that it is non-contagious and safe for them to return.
- e. **Persistent Cough:** Children with a persistent, severe cough should be kept at home until the cough has improved or resolved.

If a child has started a course of antibiotics then they must stay at home for 48 hours after taking the first dose in case of a reaction to the medication.

## Notification:

Parents will be notified immediately if their child exhibits symptoms of illness during the setting hours. It is essential for parents to arrange for prompt pick-up of their child in such cases.

## Temperature Checks:

When parents arrive to pick up their child, a staff member will take the child's temperature using a thermometer. If the child's temperature is 100.4°F/38°C or higher, the child will not be allowed to return to the setting until they have been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

## Doctor's Clearance:

A doctor's note may be required for children returning to the setting after a contagious illness or if the staff has concerns about the child's health.

For up to date Government guidance on a range of infections/illnesses please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/children-and-young-people-settings-tools-and-resources>

## Preventing the Spread of Illness:

**Hand Hygiene:** We promote regular handwashing and proper hygiene practices among children and staff.

**Sanitisation:** High-touch surfaces and toys will be regularly sanitised to reduce the risk of disease transmission.

**Vaccination:** We encourage parents to ensure their children are up-to-date with recommended vaccinations to prevent vaccine-preventable diseases.

**Conclusion:**

By adhering to this Child Sickness and Exclusion Policy, we aim to create a safe and healthy environment for all children at Bee Active Childcare. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain the well-being of our daycare community.

This policy is subject to review and update as needed to align with current health guidelines and best practices.

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