

## Infection Prevention and Control

Holy Trinity After School Club believes that the health and safety of children is of paramount importance. We work closely with parents/carers to ensure that children can attend the setting each day. However, it will sometimes be necessary to require a sick child to be collected early from a session or be kept at home while they get better to minimise the risk of infection spreading.

If any infectious or communicable disease is detected on the premises, the Manager will inform parents/carers personally in writing as soon as possible. The Early Years Link Social worker and Public Health Agency will also be informed if appropriate. Where infectious conditions are identified we seek advice from the medical professionals and implement the recommended exclusion periods.

- If a child appears to be unwell during the day – has a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – parents/carers will be contacted.
- If a child has a temperature, they will be kept cool, by removing top clothing, sponging their heads with cool water and kept away from draughts.
- Temperatures will be taken using a thermometer from the first aid kit.
- In extreme cases of emergency, a member of staff will phone for an ambulance and the parent/carer will be informed.
- After sickness or diarrhoea, parents/carers are asked to keep the child home for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or until a formed stool is passed.
- The setting has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times in accordance with the public health agency.
- Parents/Carers are asked to inform the setting if their child has any illness such as measles or chicken pox.
- Women who are pregnant are made aware of the following infections: chicken pox/shingles, rubella, slapped cheek syndrome and measles.

The After School setting is registered with the local Environmental Health Department and implements all guidance relating to the storage and preparation of food within the premises. All staff have undertaken Basic Food Hygiene Training.

We also implement the WHSCT ‘Infection Control Guidelines for Child Care Settings.’

### **Exclusion of staff**

A staff member who has an infection can place children and others at risk, therefore staff suffering from particular conditions must be excluded from their work in accordance with Health Protection Agency Guidelines.

Any staff member who handles food and becomes sick with diarrhoea, vomiting or infected skin problems such as wounds or boils must report this to the manager.

Those with diarrhoea or vomiting should be excluded from work until at least 48 hours after symptoms have stopped. They should seek medical advice. Staff with infected wounds or skin infections on exposed parts of their bodies should be similarly excluded until the lesions are healed or they have been advised that it is safe to return to work by the GP.

Staff with other conditions which could spread infections, such as the common cold, should take sensible precautions and inform the manager.

**Reporting of 'notifiable disease'**

If a child or adult is diagnosed as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988, the GP will report this to the Public Health Agency, Health Protection Service.

When the setting becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the manager will inform the Early Years Team and ensure that the setting acts on any advice given by the Health Protection Agency.