

Policy - Sick Children

Malvern Special Families will not exclude children from our clubs unnecessarily. Our policy is to encourage and promote good health and hygiene for children in our care. This includes monitoring the children for signs and symptoms of infectious diseases. We consult with the UK HSA Guidance on Preventing and Controlling Infections, (updated 10 October 2023). Malvern Special Families ensures that staff and children are protected from infectious diseases by adopting the guidance produced by Public Health England in May 2016.

We cannot admit sick children to the clubs. The decision of the CEO is final when requesting the exclusion of a child for illness or infection. Decisions will consider the needs of the child and those of the group.

Children with infectious or contagious diseases will be excluded for certain periods. If staff suspect that a child has an infectious or contagious disease, they will request that parent/ carer consult a doctor before returning the child to the club.

If a child appears unwell during the day, for example has a raised temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach then the playleader will call the parents and asks them to collect the child or send a known carer to collect on their behalf. If the parent/carers cannot be contacted, the emergency contact will be called.

While awaiting the arrival of parent/ carer the staff will ensure the comfort of the child, taking appropriate action, which would include seeking medical advice if necessary.

If the child requires medical assessment, the playleader will call NHS 111 to seek medical advice immediately and the parent/carers will also be informed.

In an emergency an ambulance is called and the parents are informed. Parents are advised to seek medical advice before returning them to the setting; the setting can refuse admittance to children who have a raised temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.

In the case of infestations such as head lice, staff will inform parent/ carer of the problem and advise them how to proceed. Children must receive treatment before returning to the any clubs.

If the child has had sickness or diarrhoea, it is our policy of a 48-hour clearance of either symptom before the child may return. The setting has information about other excludable diseases and exclusion times. The setting manager has a list of notifiable diseases and contacts Public Health England (PHE) and Ofsted in the event of an outbreak.

Staff will report any worries about a child's health to the parents/guardians immediately. Parent/ carer are responsible for keeping the Malvern Special Families informed about the child's health.

Malvern Special Families should be informed of any infectious diseases/sicknesses affecting the child e.g. measles, head lice, impetigo, thread worms, COVID 19 etc.

In the case of a serious accident or illness occurring then the parent will be contacted immediately, along with any medical help if necessary and the appropriate action will be taken.