Sickness and Infection Control

This policy is in place to reduce the transmission and spread of infection.

There are a range of common and significant childhood infections and diseases that we all need to be alert to.

We follow government guidance for exclusion and are mindful that children need to be fit and well to access the experiences that we provide.

We promote good standards of hygiene throughout our setting and have control measures in place to reduce the spread of infection.

Procedure

Safeguarding & Welfare

· We control the spread of infections through handwashing; managing cuts, bites, nosebleeds, and abrasions; encouraging covering mouth or nose with disposable tissues and providing appropriate PPE.

· We have robust systems in place to manage all spillages and bodily fluids.

· A regular and thorough cleaning schedule is implemented within the setting to control infection.

· Our cleaning materials are stored in accordance with Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH).

· We employ good hygiene practices and have adequate sanitary facilities.

· Our toys and resources are well maintained, and additional cleaning is undertaken during an outbreak of infection.

· A system is in place to alert vulnerable groups who are at particular risk of infection.

· We signpost parents/carers and staff to the NHS website for up-to-date information around vaccination and immunisation.

· We make parents/carers aware of the Sickness Policy and keep a record of the arrangements for the exclusion of a child should they become ill.

· We take appropriate action if a child or staff member becomes ill during the day.

· We monitor outbreaks or incidents and ensure reporting and confidentiality in accordance with the Information and Records Policy.

· If a child becomes ill on the premises, or is believed to have an infectious illness or disease, the child will be kept away from other children; parents/carers will be contacted for the immediate collection of the child and the child will be excluded from the setting until they have been well for 48 hours, or in accordance with Health Authority guidelines or setting policies and procedures.

· If a child is suffering from a disease or illness which requires notification, we inform the parents/carers of our concerns and act on advice given by Public Health England. We will also inform Ofsted of any action taken.

· Parents/carers of other children in the setting will be notified if a child has a diagnosed infectious disease.

· Staff follow internal systems for reporting sickness.

· Staff follow the Medicine Policy if medication is required

This policy was adopted in	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
September 2026	*Elizabeth Ross-Whittall*	*September 2027*