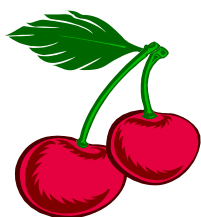


Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health

The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents and/or carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.



Managing children who are sick, infectious, or with allergies

Policy statement

Little Cherries aims to provide care for healthy children through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections. We promote health by teaching children about good hygiene and through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic trigger.

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

We ask parents to inform a member of staff if their child has any illness, so that we can display a sign to inform parents, staff and visitors that we have had a case of that infection or illness in the setting. This allows other parents to be on the lookout for the symptoms in their child. Children who are unwell with an infectious disease should not attend the setting and should not return until the risk of passing on the infection has passed.

- If children appear unwell during the day (e.g. if they have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach) a member of the Little Cherries staff will call the parents/carers and ask them to collect the child, or to send a known carer to collect the child on their behalf.
- If children display COVID19 symptoms, parents will be asked to collect them. Please see our COVID 19 risk assessment.
- If a child has a temperature they are kept cool, by removing top clothing and sponging their heads with cool water and they are kept away from draughts.
- The child's temperature is taken using a forehead thermometer strip which is kept in the first aid box.
- In extreme cases of emergency, an ambulance is called and the parent/carers informed.
- Parents are asked to seek advice from a medical professional or doctor before returning them to the setting. Senior staff can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, Little Cherries ask parents/carers to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting. This is also the case

where a child has been prescribed an antibiotic treatment for the first time (e.g. eye drops) to ensure no reaction to the antibiotic occurs.

- After diarrhoea, Little Cherries ask parents/carers to keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.
- Some activities such as sand and water play, and self-serve snacks where there is a risk of cross-contamination may be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.
- Little Cherries has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is obtainable from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities> and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'

- If a child or adult is diagnosed as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the GP will report this to Public Health England.
- When Little Cherries become aware, or are formally informed of the notifiable disease, the manager informs Ofsted and contacts Public Health England, and acts on any advice given.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure

HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis A, B and C, are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults. Little Cherries staff:

- Wear single-use vinyl gloves and aprons when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Bag soiled clothing for parents/carers to take home for cleaning.
- Clear spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit using mild disinfectant solution and mops; any cloths used are disposed of with the clinical waste.
- Clean any tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit using a disinfectant.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition; although in exceptional cases Little Cherries may ask a parent/carer to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, staff will inform all parents/carers and ask them to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.

Procedures for children with allergies

- When children start at the setting we ask their parents/carers if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Registration Form.
- If a child has an allergy, we complete a risk assessment form to detail the following:

- The allergen (i.e. the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc).
- The nature of the allergic reactions (e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc).
- What to do in case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how it is to be used (e.g. Epipen).
- Control measures - such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen.
- Review measures.
- This risk assessment form is kept in the child's personal file and a copy is displayed where Little Cherries staff can see it.
- A health care plan will also be completed.
- Generally, no nuts or nut products are used within the setting.
- Parents are made aware so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in, for example to a party or in children's lunch boxes.
- We display current information about children's dietary need and allergies so that all staff and volunteers are informed and aware of these.
- Staff are aware of the 14 known allergens which are displayed in the kitchen area and on the notice board.
- A list of the known allergens contained in the foods which are served directly by Little Cherries (at snack times) is also available.

Insurance requirements for children with allergies and disabilities

- If necessary, Little Cherries insurance will include children with any disability or allergy, but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below. For children suffering life threatening conditions, or requiring invasive treatments; written confirmation from our insurance provider must be obtained to extend the insurance.
- At all times we ensure that the administration of medication is compliant with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- Oral medication:
 - Asthma inhalers are regarded as 'oral medication' by insurers and so documents do not need to be forwarded to our insurance provider. Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP.
 - Little Cherries must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.
 - Little Cherries adhere to all risk assessment procedures for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
 - Little Cherries must have the parents or guardians prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file. It is not necessary to forward copy documents to our insurance provider.
- Life-saving medication and invasive treatments:
 These include adrenaline injections (Epipens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc) or invasive treatments such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy).

- Little Cherries must have:
 - a letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication is to be administered;
 - written consent from the parent or guardian allowing trained staff to administer medication;
 - proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children's nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse.
- Written confirmation that we hold this information will first be sent to the Early Years Alliance Insurance team for appraisal
- Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.
- Treatments, such as inhalers or Epipens are immediately accessible in an emergency.
- Key persons for special needs children requiring assistance with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.:
 - Prior written consent must be obtained from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
 - A senior member of staff must have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include receiving appropriate instructions from parents or guardians.
 - Copies of all letters relating to these children must first be sent to the Early Years Alliance Insurance team for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.
- If Little Cherries is unsure about any aspect ,we will contact the Early Years Alliance Insurance team on 020 7697 2585 or email email insurance@eyalliance.org.uk

This policy was adopted by	Little Cherries	<i>(name of provider)</i>
On	_____	<i>(date)</i>
Date to be reviewed	September 2022	<i>(date)</i>
Signed on behalf of the provider	_____	
Name of signatory	Jennie Peacock	
Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)	Chair	

Other useful Pre-school Learning Alliance publications

- Good Practice in Early Years Infection Control (2009)
- Medication Administration Record (2013)