**Sick Child Policy**

**Policy Created: 12.04.24**

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

I understand that as a parent you will have obligations that you must fulfill including attending work and/or college.

If your child becomes ill in my care I will ring you or your emergency contacts and request that the child is collected within a reasonable time period (1 hour) to be taken home.

All children that attend, must always be well enough to engage within daily activities, both indoors and outdoors. It is not good practice for children to be excluded from playing outdoors, so parents must give careful consideration about whether their child will be able to fully participate in the day. This must also be considered when a child has a mild illness or is recovering from an illness. Please consider that if I or a member of my family become ill as a result then I may have to close while I (or they) recover.

If you are in any doubt about whether or not to bring your child to my home then please call me first to discuss the situation.

Whilst it is not appropriate to care for sick children within the day, who should be at home until they are well enough to return to the setting, we recognise that there are times where it will be necessary to administer medication as part of maintaining children's health and well-being or when they are recovering from an illness (see 'Administration of Medicine Policy').

You must tell us before arriving at our setting if your child has been ill or taken any medication (including paracetamol) in any 48-hour period before we look after them, giving details of their symptoms and any medical advice received. This information must be shared with us, even if the child no longer shows any symptoms. This is to ensure the medication is not ‘masking’ any symptoms. Depending on the illness or the reason for taking medication, we may not be able to accept your child until they are well again.

I have set out my own exclusion periods for some common illnesses below:

**Suspected or confirmed Coronavirus -** You should keep your child at home if they have a temperature and feel unwell. Once the temperature has gone and the child is feeling well in themselves with no other symptoms, the child can return to the setting. In cases of confirmed Coronavirus it is still suggested that the child remains at home for 5 days.

**High temperature -** You should not bring your child to the setting if they are suffering from a fever. Please keep them at home until the temperature has gone and they feel well enough to return.

**Flu -** 5 days

**Sickness & diarrhoea -** 48 hours from last occurence

**Chicken pox -** Until spots have crusted over (this is usually around 5 days after spots have appeared)

**Conjunctivitis –** 24 hours after medicated eye drops have been first administered

### Ear infection – If your child has an ear infection, we ask that they stay at home until they are back to full health and have been on any medication for at least 48 hours.

### Impetigo - If a child has impetigo, they'll very likely need antibiotics from your GP. Please keep them at home until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotics.

**Headlice and nits** – We ask that your child stays off until they have received a full head treatment and no more headlice/nits appear in their head.

**Slapped cheek syndrome –** Your child may return to our setting once their temperature has returned to normal for 24 hours

**Threadworms –** Your child may return to our setting the day after they have had their single dose of medication

**Ringworm** - Your child may return to our setting 24hours after their first dose of medication

**Hand foot and mouth disease –** Your child may return to our setting once the blisters have dried up and the rash and fever has gone, this usually takes between 7 and 10 days.