

# Parkside Playgroup

## Control of Infectious Diseases Policy Statement

Parkside Playgroup is committed to ensuring that a safe, healthy environment is maintained. The playgroup recognises that infections can spread quickly amongst children in a childcare environment therefore we will endeavour to ensure that infections are controlled, and good health and hygiene practices are maintained.

### Procedures

Parkside Playgroup aims to prevent the spread of infectious illnesses by adhering to the following procedures

- Excluding children and staff with infectious illnesses for the recommended period of time (please see the NHS exclusion guidelines for further information on this)
- Identifying signs of illness in children and staff whilst they are at the setting
- Members of staff who become ill whilst at the setting will be sent home immediately
- Informing parents/carers that their children are ill and arranging for them to be collected at the earliest opportunity
- Limiting the contact of sick children with other children until they can be collected from the setting
- Preventing the spread of infection by adhering to the settings health and safety policy
- Reporting incidences of certain infections e.g. chicken pox, measles, head lice to other parents/carers and members of staff whilst maintaining the anonymity of those concerned

The list below indicates those illness/diseases that may/could cause us concern

Threadworm, Ring worm, Mumps, Measles, Rubella, Scabies, Bronchitis, Chicken Pox, flu, Conjunctivitis, Covid-19, Croup, Diarrhoea, Gastroenteritis, Herpes, Impetigo, Meningitis, Vomiting, Salmonella, Whooping Cough, Hand, Foot and mouth

The guidelines laid out in this policy refer to both children and adults/staff alike

If a child is suspected to be suffering from any of these conditions, parents/carers will be asked to remove them from the playgroup in order to prevent further infection

It is the responsibility of the parent to seek medical advice and advise the setting accordingly

If there is a major outbreak of any contagious disease, it is the responsibility of the setting to notify parents/carers

The setting manager must be contacted, and approval sought, before a child can return to the setting following any infectious illness/disease

The setting has the right to refuse admission to any child they feel may be infected with an illness/disease

### COVID – 19

- Everyone is eligible for a COVID-19 test, should they display coronavirus symptoms.
- Any suspected or confirmed case must be reported to the Playgroup Manager as soon as possible. If a positive result is confirmed, the practitioners and children associated with that group must self-isolate for 14 days before returning to playgroup. Positive tests will be reported to the National Institute for Health Protection and Ofsted by the Manager.
- The Manager is responsible for contacting the National Institute for Health Protection if a case is confirmed or if a symptomatic person is admitted to hospital, a possible case refuses testing, there are a cluster of possible cases/unexpected increase in absenteeism, or a suspected case has a definite link to a confirmed case.
- If there is reasonable evidence that a positive diagnosis was caused by exposure at work, this will be reported to RIDDOR.

- If someone in your household, or someone you have close contact with, is contacted by track and trace and told they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive, you need to be tested. If they test positive, then you will also need to self-isolate for 14 days even if you do not test positive yourself.
- The Government’s tracing app is a way of helping to protect everyone.

### Further guidance

- Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings (DfES 2005)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	Parkside Playgroup
Held on	Sept 2021
Date to be reviewed	Sept 2022
Signed on behalf of the provider	
Name of signatory	Brenda Henrick
Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)	Chairperson

### Other useful Pre-school Learning Alliance publications

- Good Practice in Early Years Infection Control (2009)