# Illness & Medicines

If your child is unwell before the start of the session, please keep him or her at home. The love and comfort you can provide is far better for them when they are unwell.

If your child has a contagious illness, for example chicken pox, mumps etc.. They must remain at home until they are no longer contagious and likely to spread the illness to others.

(Please see booklet on Infections and diseases on shelf in main room. or poster displayed in the office)
Further information about infectious diseases can be found on the Gov website.
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/a-to-z-of-infectious-diseases-in-children-and-young-peoples-settings

If your child becomes ill during the session every attempt will be made by the staff to make contact with you and your child will be cared for by a member of staff until you arrive to take them home. In the event of a member of staff becoming unwell an attempt will be made to provide a replacement.

If your child is likely to require regular medication during the session e.g. an inhaler during his or her stay at preschool. Please fill in the medication form at the back of the introductory handbook.

If you require a member of staff to administer medication to your child at any point during the day, you will be required to fill in a form stating the type of medicine, the amount required and the time it is to be administered. **Please be aware that we are only able to administer medication to your child, if the original label is attached (stating your child's name, address and correct dosage etc…) medication provided without this label will not be given by a staff member to your child.**

Children are encouraged to keep safe and protected during their time at preschool and understand safe practices. Staff are happy to support children to apply sun cream, as and when necessary and if the product is provided by parents/ carers. If your child brings suncream (or any medication) into preschool, please do not leave it in their bag, but hand it in to a staff member for safe keeping.
We request that during the summer months, children arrive for preschool with a layer of sunscreen previously applied by parents.

**If for any reason the medicine/ sun cream etc.. is not administered, responsibility cannot be accepted by the Preschool Nursery.**



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**Head lice**
Are very common amongst young children, they are passed from one head to another through physical contact. If you are aware that your child has head lice, please treat them **BEFORE** you bring your child to preschool. Treatment is available from your local chemist at a cost or free from your doctor. If your child is found to have head lice towards the end of their session a member of staff will notify you discreetly on your return.
If headlice are observed on your child's hair, during or at the start of their session, we will contact parents and request that they are collected immediately, to avoid the spread to other members attending that day.
**In either case**, your child's head lice will not be dealt with by medicated shampoo alone- as this shampoo only kills the live hatched lice. All lice remaining inside the tiny eggs will remain alive and as soon as they have hatched out, they will reinfect your child and lay further eggs to continue the cycle. So once treated with the medicated shampoo, you will need to comb through your child's hair with a **'nit comb'** and repeat the combing of their hair daily for 2 weeks.
Each head lice can live on a scalp for about 40 days and can lay about 100 eggs during that time. They will have laid many eggs before you discovered them, so you need to be watchful for more lice hatching out over the next couple of weeks.
You will also need to treat yourself and all the members of your family, that your child has come into contact, as it is likely that everyones hair is infected too.

Further information can be found at https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/childhood-illnesses/head-lice/

**Sickness and Diarrhea**
If your child has either been sick and/or had a bout of diarrhea they need to remain at home, as this type of illness is very contagious. Children must not return to preschool until 48 hours after the last time they were sick or had diarrhea.

Further information about childhood illnesses can be found on the JustOneNorfolk NHS website along with al sorts of other health information.
https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/childhood-illnesses/