



Illness Policy and Procedure

Objective: We at Learning Ladder Nursery strive to provide a safe and healthy environment for its staff and the children attending the nursery.

Policy:

Learning Ladder Nursery cannot accept any child at the nursery if he/she has:

- Fever of more than 38 C-child has to be fever free for at least 24 hours. Child who has been given fever reducing medicine in the morning should not be accepted as symptoms have been masked
- Skin rash of any kind
- Vomiting in the last 24 hours
- Diarrhea in the last 48 hours
- Persistent cough
- Heavy nasal discharge
- Child taking antibiotics for any infection
- Red, watery and swelling in/around the eyes
- Heavy, yellow discharge from the eyes
- Infectious diseases such as
 - Chickenpox
 - Mumps
 - Measles
 - Hand, Foot, and Mouth
 - Influenza

Procedure:

- Medical section of the registration form **MUST** be filled completely at the time of registration and an updated vaccination record must be kept in the registration file. No child should start attending nursery till both documents have been submitted to the nurse
- If a child is assessed by any staff as being unwell, agitated, or not their usual self, the nurse must be informed immediately and child to be taken to nursery clinic
- If a child is assessed by the nurse and deemed too unwell to attend Nursery, parents are to be contacted immediately to take them home within 30 minutes. During this time, the child must be made as comfortable as possible in the Nursery Clinic and not be sent back to the classroom
- Similarly, if the child is assessed by the nurse along with the nursery management and deemed to be a possible source of infection to other students, parents are to be contacted immediately to take them home within 30 minutes. During this time, the child must be made as comfortable as possible in the Nursery Clinic and not be sent back to the classroom
- The Nurse must contact the person identified in the emergency contact list to discuss to arrange for them to collect the child should the parents not be reachable
- The Nursery Nurse **MUST** always check a child for any symptoms and /or fever if the child has been absent due to illness or sent home the day before
- A doctor's note must be provided if a child is suspected of suffering from a highly infectious disease that could lead to an outbreak i.e. chickenpox, measles, mumps(Please refer to table on page 2)

- Unessential medicines or medicines that can be taken before coming to nursery or at bedtime should not be brought into nursery. This includes vitamins, antibiotics, ear drops, eye drops, fever reducing medication, and cough and cold suppressants of any sort
- If a child does require essential medicine for a long term condition, a medical authorization form must be filled out before handing the medication to the nurse. Medication must always be handed over to the Nursery Nurse and never left in a child's bag(Please see Medical Administration Policy)
- Nursery to be provided with a doctor's note if child is recovering from any infectious diseases as shown in the table below:

Chicken Pox	Measles	Mumps
Scarlet Fever	Hand Foot and Mouth	Hepatitis A
Strep Throat	Pink Eye	Whooping Cough
Meningitis	Infectious Diarrhea	Tuberculosis

*Table to be regularly updated by Nursery Nurse as per DHA guidelines and to include any contagious strains of influenza.

Prevention of Illness

Young children are vulnerable to infectious diseases as their immune system is still building, and we encourage the parents and staff to be aware of our health policies as stated. Prevention of illnesses or contagious diseases is critical.

We encourage you to:

- Wash hands properly as often as possible-especially at meal times and after outdoor play
- Parents should do a brief assessment of their child's health each morning and not bring a sick child to the Nursery
- Be aware that low-grade fevers may be associated with an infection or illness, and not "just teething"
- Dress your child appropriately - according to weather, etc.
- Parent should be prepared that at short notice, they may have to pick up their child due to illness

