



## 22 MEDICINES POLICY

Company Name: Tender Years Nursery Ltd  
Setting Name: Little Jems Childcare Services  
Policy Date: 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023 Next Review Date: 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024

In the interests of all children and staff, poorly children should not attend nursery.

Young children pass on infections readily because they are not able to cover their mouths when coughing, blow their own noses when they have a cold etc. They are therefore a source of infection to each other and to staff. Furthermore, if children are poorly or are in the process of recovery, they themselves are susceptible to contracting other infections that may be present in the nursery population.

Excluding poorly children from the nursery maintains a healthy environment for everyone and reduces the amount of medication on the premises. It will be the nursery's decision whether to accept a child to nursery or to send a child home if we believe that the child is too ill to attend nursery. This is in the best interests of the child and other children and staff potentially exposed to illness.

Medicines on the premises introduce health and safety risks to all children. This is especially true if parents fail to follow our procedures and simply leave medicines in a child's bag.

Medicines will be kept in a refrigerator throughout the day and returned to parents upon collection of their child. **Joy Abbe** is responsible for maintaining medicines and ensuring all medicines are returned to parents.



Any medication for children must be prescribed by GP with the child's name and date of birth.

### **STATEMENT OF VALUES**

- 1) We believe that children deserve the right to be cared for in a healthy environment.
- 2) The nursery is committed to ensuring, as far as possible, that children are not exposed to infectious agents.
- 3) We wish to minimize disruption to parents working life, at the same time enable full recovery of the child and promote future good health.
- 4) We are determined to ensure that no children in our nursery are at risk from the introduction of medicines on the premises.

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

- 1 We intend to provide a healthy environment for children and staff.
- 2 We intend to enable children suffering from chronic illness such as asthma and eczema to attend nursery. We will administer medication as necessary throughout the day as prescribed by a medical practitioner.
- 3 We will notify parents if their child falls ill during the nursery day and request for the child to be collected.
- 4 We will provide nursing care to a sick child who falls ill during the nursery day, until parents arrive.
- 5 We will administer antibiotic medicine during the day to a child Who needs to complete their course of antibiotics.



if:

a. The child has been kept away from nursery for 24 hours from the onset of treatment. This is to allow the medication to take effect and to allow the child suitable recovery period.

b. The parent/carer signs a declaration form stating (a) the medicine is prescribed by a doctor, (b) the child was kept away from nursery for 24 hours following the onset of medication, (c) giving directions for administration.

c. The medicine is prescribed by a doctor. Herbal remedies and over the counter drugs or preparations will not be given e.g. Beechams, Venos.

d. Calpol suspension can be administered to a child during the day for a specific ailment and the direction for administration is clearly stated on the label's bottle stating "as required" will not be administered to the child.

e. In event of emergency of a child feeling unwell parents will be contacted by telephone for verbal consent in order to administer medication. At the point of the telephone conversation two members of staff must be present.

6 In the event of a child vomiting or passing diarrhoea a child must be kept away from the nursery for 48 hours from the last onset of the sickness. This will reduce the spread of infection.

Parents will be telephoned and asked to collect a child receiving Prescribed medication if the nursery does not feel the child is well enough to attend.



Emergency services should be called if a child's temperature is over 39 degrees, or suspicious rash or swelling causes substantial discomfort.

To reduce a child's temperature before it gets to this stage remove clothing and take to cooler room or sit the child near an open window.

If a child is required to carry an EpiPen for the treatment of severe allergic reactions, staff will be given appropriate training on how to administer this correctly. Parents will be expected to collect their child as soon as possible so further treatment or rest can be given.

An antibiotic will not be given to a child if it is found in their bag or amongst belongings. This is to encourage parents/carers to remember to hand in medicines over to a member of staff and thus minimize the risk of medicine being misused by children.

Common childhood ailments such as nappy rash, teething, allergies etc., may be experienced by many young children whilst at nursery. During this time we are able to apply creams, antihistamines and gels to alleviate any discomfort, Calpol will not be given for teething discomfort. Consent to administer each medication must be signed for on a medication consent form before the treatment can begin at nursery.

Therefore it is important for parents to give this consideration and not bring any such medication to nursery unless they have completed such a form.

Gloves will be worn when applying cream to children with allergies to prevent cross contamination.



The nursery does not supply sun cream for children.

Parents must provide their own which is clearly labelled with the child's name.

## **MEDICATION**

All medication must be entered into the medication log, which is kept in the office.

When accepting medicine, make sure that it is clearly labelled with the child's name, current date, and dosage instructions

The date time and dosage must be entered in the log and initialled after it has been administered to the children by staff

All medication, unless they specify differently must be kept in the office or in the fridge in the kitchen.

If in doubt always check with a member of the management team

Under no circumstances should medicines be kept in the group rooms or in children's bags etc. Please ensure that the parents are made aware of this on commencing at the nursery

Where children have been prescribed antibiotics they must stay at home for the first 24 hours of the course. They can then be admitted to the nursery and the course continued.

Medication cannot be administered without prior written parental consent.