



Healthy Living - Medicines and Sickness

The EYFS says:

3.1 Children learn best when they are healthy, safe and secure, when their individual needs are met, and when they have positive relationships with the adults caring for them. The safeguarding and welfare requirements, specified in this section, are designed to help providers create high quality settings which are welcoming, safe and stimulating, and where children are able to enjoy learning and grow in confidence.

3.44 The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents/carers for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.

3.45 Providers must have and implement a policy, and procedures, for administering medicines. It must include systems for obtaining information about a child's needs for medicines, and for keeping this information up-to-date.

Training must be provided for staff where the administration of medicine requires medical or technical knowledge.

Medicines must not usually be administered unless they have been prescribed for a child by a doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist (medicines containing aspirin should only be given if prescribed by a doctor).

3.46 Medicine (both prescription and non-prescription) must only be administered to a child where written permission for the particular medicine has been obtained from the child's parent/carer. Providers must keep a written record for each time a medicine is administered to a child and inform the child's parents/carers on the same day, or as reasonably practicable.

I ask:

- Parents to let me know if their child has been ill as they will be unable to attend. The exclusion period after any episode of sickness and/or diarrhoea is 48 hours after the last episode.
- Parents to collect promptly should I advise that your child has become ill whilst in the setting.
- Parents to give written consent along with detailed instructions before I can administer any medicine - this must include dosage details
- Parents to provide all medicines needed by their child in their original containers, if an asthma inhaler is needed, one must be left with us.

Little Cubs Childminding, Wotton Under Edge

- Parents to work with me if their child self-medicates as we are legally obliged to record any medication that a child takes.
- Parents to advise me immediately if your child contracts Chicken Pox, Measles or any other infection.
- Parents to consider back up arrangements for childcare should the setting have to close due to illness.
- Parents to administer the first 48 hours of any new medicine at home in case of reactions.

I will:

- Care for children with minor coughs and colds - however if your child needs regular medication to maintain a normal temperature they will need to remain at home. We go out of the setting regularly and we have to consider the welfare of all the children we care for.
- Have regard for the Department of Health guidelines with regard to exclusion periods, in addition I may also need to exclude for ailments such as Hand, Foot and Mouth and Conjunctivitis as these can easily pass between children.
- Ensure all medicines are stored safely away from the children. Children are not allowed to go into the fridge which will be locked when medicines require cool temperatures.
- Be unable to give the first dose of any medicine in case of reactions.
- Inform parents at the earliest opportunity should any member of the household become ill and I have to close. I may be able to offer a partial service depending on the severity of the illness and who is ill.
- Care for children with complex medical needs providing I have received the appropriate training and I feel competent to do so. My insurance company and/Ofsted will also need to allow it.
- Undertake specific training to administer medicines for specific conditions providing my public liability insurance will provide coverage - this will be discussed with you and a care plan agreed.
- Store medicines for adults within the setting on the top shelf of a high kitchen cupboard which is inaccessible to children.
- When I am prescribed medicine I will check with a pharmacist /GP that it will not affect my suitability to care for children (e.g drowsy) and inform Ofsted if we are being medicated for a condition that might affect our suitability.