

Razzy's Daycare & Nursery



Razzy's Daycare & Nursery
Est. 2025

Sickness and Illness Policy

Date of Issue: December 2025

Review Date: December 2026

Introduction

At Razzy's Daycare & Nursery, we are committed to promoting the good health and wellbeing of all children. This includes maintaining high standards of hygiene, supporting healthy routines and ensuring that unwell children are cared for appropriately and safely.

We ask parents to keep children at home if they are unwell, as it is in their best interest to recover in a calm and familiar home environment rather than in a busy nursery setting.

Staff members and visitors are also expected not to attend the setting if they are unwell.

We promote children's health through balanced and nutritious meals and snacks, frequent outdoor play, good ventilation and rigorous cleaning routines. We share information with families about the importance of childhood vaccinations and the Department of Health recommendation that children aged six months to five years receive a daily vitamin supplement. We also ensure that children have opportunities for rest and sleep and provide guidance to parents on the importance of healthy sleep routines.

Legal and Regulatory Framework

This policy is informed by the following legislation and guidance:

- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework 2025
- The Children Act 1989 and 2004
- The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) 2002
- Public Health England / UK Health Security Agency: *Managing Specific Infectious Diseases in Schools and Other Childcare Facilities*

- The Human Medicines Regulations 2012
- Department of Health guidance on childhood immunisation and infection control
- Ofsted requirements for health, safety and welfare
- UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 (for storing health information)

Responding to Illness in the Setting

If a child becomes unwell during the day, a parent or carer will be contacted to collect them as soon as possible. In the meantime, the child will be cared for in a quiet, comfortable space with a familiar staff member, wherever staffing allows.

The nursery follows the exclusion guidelines published by the UK Health Security Agency for managing infectious diseases. In the event of illnesses such as diarrhoea and vomiting, children must remain at home until they have been symptom free for at least 48 hours. Where a contagious illness has been identified in the nursery, parents will be informed so they can monitor their child for symptoms. All equipment, toys and surfaces that may have come into contact with infection are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

We notify Ofsted if two or more children experience food poisoning while in our care, in line with statutory requirements. Children starting a course of antibiotics must remain at home for the first 48 hours, unless the medication is part of an existing healthcare plan and the child is well enough to attend. The nursery reserves the right to refuse admission to any child who appears too unwell to participate in the day's activities; this decision is made by the manager or senior staff member on duty.

Information about head lice is made readily available to parents. We ask families to check their child's hair regularly and to inform the nursery if head lice are found so other families can be reminded to check.

Communication with Parents

At Razzy's Daycare & Nursery, we place great importance on maintaining clear and timely communication with parents regarding their child's health. Staff will inform parents immediately if a child becomes unwell during the nursery day, providing details of symptoms and any action taken. In the event of a contagious illness, parents are notified promptly so they can monitor their child for early signs and take any necessary

precautions. We also share general information and guidance with parents on infection prevention, vaccination programmes and health promotion to ensure a consistent approach between nursery and home.

Meningitis Procedure

If a child is diagnosed with meningitis, the nursery manager will immediately contact the local Health Protection Team for guidance and support. If the nursery is contacted directly by the Health Protection Team, all advice and instructions will be followed. Relevant authorities, including Ofsted, will be informed where required.

If a child becomes seriously unwell and may need hospital treatment, emergency procedures will be followed. Staff will contact a senior manager immediately and call 999 for an ambulance. Children will never be transported to hospital in a staff member's vehicle. While waiting for emergency services, staff will follow the instructions given by the call handler and will contact the child's parent or carer to meet them at the hospital. Staffing will be reorganised as needed to maintain safe ratios for the remaining children. A suitable member of staff will accompany the child to hospital along with relevant information such as registration details, medication and comfort items. Children who witness the incident will be supported and reassured.

Transporting Children for Non-Emergency Medical Care

If a child requires hospital assessment but does not need an ambulance and the nursery considers using a staff vehicle, the nursery will consider the following factors in line with safest practice: parental permission, staffing ratios, the child's age and car seat requirements, insurance cover and safeguarding considerations. A second adult must accompany the child in the vehicle and only staff with appropriate training and insurance may drive. Wherever reasonably possible, alternatives to using staff vehicles will be sought.

Staff Training and Responsibilities

All staff at Razzy's Daycare & Nursery receive training to recognise signs of illness and manage health related incidents in line with EYFS and safeguarding requirements. Staff are trained in infection control, safe administration of medication, first aid and emergency procedures and are expected to implement these consistently. Regular refresher training

ensures that staff remain confident in responding to illnesses, administering medication safely and supporting children's wellbeing. Individual responsibilities are clearly defined, with senior staff overseeing procedures to maintain high standards of health and safety for all children.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed at least annually, or earlier if required following a significant incident such as a serious illness or hospital visit. Staff and parents will be consulted in the review process where appropriate.