**Bright Sparks**

**Childcare**

*Sick Child Policy*

* Parents/carers must keep their child home if they are aware that they have an infection.
* The school or pre-school group must make the nursery aware if any children due to be picked up from them by Bright Sparks are ill but cannot get in contact with the parent/carer.
* The nursery must be informed if any illness occurs, so staff can alert others of the nature of the infection.
* Children who appear unwell will be observed and if necessary sent home.
* If there should be a query, especially about a possible infectious disease reference will be made to the ‘spotty book’, NHS Direct or the Health Protection Agency and advice sought on exclusion periods.
* Parents/carers are asked not to let their child return to the nursery for 48 hours after vomiting or diarrhoea. It is recognised that sometimes children will vomit when there is no illness so exceptions can be made at the Managers discretion.
* Parents/carers of children who become unwell at nursery will be informed and asked to come and collect them ASAP.
* Staff, whose children are unwell, will not let them accompany them to work.
* Cuts and open wounds on children and adults will be covered at all times.
* Parents will always be contacted and informed if their child has a high temperature of 101 degrees f/38 degrees c or above. While waiting for the parent to collect the child, the nursery staff will attempt to reduce the child’s temperature by giving fluids, removing the child’s top layer of clothing and applying tepid flannels.
* To prevent the spread of conjunctivitis, suspected cases will be reported immediately to parents/guardians who will be requested to take their child from nursery to be seen by a doctor. Children need to be treated for at least 48 hours before they can come back to nursery.
* To minimise the spread of any infectious disease Bright Sparks will always notify other parents that there have been cases, or suspected cases within the nursery before their child attends and in some cases may advise non-attendance until the risk of infection has been reduced through scrupulous extra sanitizing of the entire environment.
* In the case of an epidemic, the local authorities will be notified.
* Ofsted will be notified within 14 days of any serious injury or death of a child.
* Should we suspect the child is suffering from a notifiable disease, identified as such in the Public Health (infection diseases) Regulations 1988 we will inform Ofsted and Public Health England. We will then follow any advice given by the Public Health England and notify Ofsted of these actions.
* In the event of an infectious illness outbreak all equipment is sterilised and material items washed (where possible on a boil wash). Where necessary the nursery will be closed to enable a more thorough clean to take place.

Date Review date