

Our Approach

At Busy Bees Preschool, the health and wellbeing of children, families and staff is very important to us.

We take reasonable steps to reduce the spread of illness and infection and follow current UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) public health guidance on when children should stay away from preschool.

Children with mild illnesses, such as a runny nose or slight cough, may attend if they are otherwise well, have no high temperature and are able to take part comfortably in normal activities.

When Should My Child Stay at Home?

Please keep your child at home if they:

- Are too unwell to comfortably take part in normal preschool activities.
- Have a high temperature and are unwell.
- Have had diarrhoea or vomiting within the previous 48 hours.
- Have an infection requiring a period of exclusion under current UKHSA guidance.
- Need a level of care that cannot safely be provided alongside the needs of the other children.

Important Exclusion Periods

Some common examples are:

Illness	When your child can return
Diarrhoea or vomiting	48 hours after the last episode
Chickenpox	5 days after the rash first appeared
Impetigo	When sores have crusted/healed or 48 hours after starting antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash appeared
Mumps	5 days after swelling started
Scarlet fever	24 hours after starting antibiotics
Whooping cough	48 hours after starting antibiotics

Flu	When better and no longer has a temperature
Hand, foot and mouth	No exclusion once well enough to attend
Slapped cheek	No exclusion once the rash has appeared, provided the child is well enough
Head lice	No exclusion required
Threadworms	No exclusion required

These are examples only. Exclusion guidance can change, and some infections have specific requirements. We will always follow the current UKHSA guidance.

If Your Child Becomes Unwell at Preschool

If your child becomes unwell during a session, we will:

- Assess their immediate needs.
- Keep them comfortable and appropriately supervised.
- Contact you if they are too unwell to remain at preschool.
- Ask you to collect them as soon as possible where necessary.
- Seek emergency medical assistance if there is a serious or immediate concern.

We do not diagnose illnesses. Parents/carers may be advised to seek appropriate medical advice.

Diarrhoea and Vomiting

To help protect all children and staff, children must remain at home for 48 hours after their last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.

If a child becomes unwell with diarrhoea or vomiting at preschool, parents/carers will be contacted for collection and appropriate infection-control measures will be followed.

Infectious Illnesses

Please tell Busy Bees if your child has been diagnosed with an infectious illness.

This helps us take appropriate precautions and, where necessary, inform other families while respecting confidentiality.

If there is an unusual increase in illness or linked cases, we may seek advice from the local Health Protection Team and take additional measures such as increased cleaning, hand hygiene and ventilation.

Helping to Prevent the Spread of Infection

We encourage good hygiene throughout the preschool, including:

- Regular handwashing with soap and water.
- Handwashing before eating and after using the toilet or taking part in messy activities.
- Good respiratory hygiene, such as using tissues when coughing or sneezing.
- Regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces, toys and equipment.
- Safe management of bodily fluids.
- Appropriate ventilation where practical.
- Following food hygiene and safer eating procedures.

Parents and Carers

Please:

- Tell us if your child has an infectious illness.
- Keep your child's health information up to date.
- Follow the recommended exclusion periods.
- Contact us if you are unsure whether your child is well enough to attend.

If your child has an individual medical or health need that may affect their attendance or care, please speak to the Manager so we can work with you to support them safely.

Staff Illness

Staff will not attend preschool when they are too unwell to safely carry out their duties or when a public health exclusion period applies.

Confidentiality

Information about children's health and illness is treated confidentially and shared only where necessary to safeguard and care for children.

Last reviewed: September 2026

Next review: September 2027