



## Illness and Exclusion Policy

Riverside Playgroup aim to promote a healthy environment, good health and take the necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection for the children in our care and we seek the co-operation of parents to help us implement this policy.

- If parents/carers notice their child becoming ill or infectious they must inform Riverside and they must have regard to the exclusion list below.
- If your child becomes ill while at Riverside his/her condition is brought to the attention of the Manager or when not available the Deputy Manager.
- A decision will then be taken based upon the symptoms including any visible signs and the child's body temperature as to whether you are immediately informed or whether continued monitoring of the child should occur
- Should a child's condition deteriorate you will be contacted by a member of the team and actions will be agreed. This could include administering medicines or requesting collection of the child in order to reduce the risk of cross infection for example in the case of vomiting or diarrhoea
- If a child becomes ill or infectious at Riverside Playgroup, every effort will be made to contact the parents/carers. It is essential therefore that we have up to date information in order to be able to contact the parents/carers during the settings hours. If the parent/carer cannot be contacted, we will endeavour to contact the other named contacts on the child's record.
- If we are unable to contact a parent/carer or other named contact, Riverside Playgroup reserves the right to take the child to a general practitioner or hospital in an emergency.  
Please note that parents/carers will be required to give signed consent for this procedure on registering their child at Riverside.

### Notification of exposure to infectious diseases

Illness/Infectious Diseases	Period of Exclusion
Chicken pox/shingles	5-7 days after the onset of the rash
Conjunctivitis	None
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	Children and staff should be excluded from the setting until their symptoms have settled and until 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting
Glandular fever	There is no benefit in keeping children or staff off once they feel well enough to attend
Hand, foot and mouth	None, however, whilst the child is unwell he/she should be kept away from the setting

Head lice	None. Treatment is only required if live lice are seen in the hair (not nits (eggs)).
Hepatitis	Hep A- Until the child feels well or until 7 days after the onset of jaundice, whichever is the later.
	Hep B-Children who develop symptoms will be too ill to be at the setting.
	Hep C-Usually no symptoms but care must be taken with bodily fluids if person is known to have Hep C
HIV / Aids	Should not be restricted or excluded
Impetigo	Until 24 hours after the start of treatment. If there is an outbreak, stop the use of sand, water, playdough and cooking activities and wash all “dressing up “ clothes. (An outbreak is 2 or more cases of the same infectious organism in a setting.)
Measles, mumps and rubella	Measles- yes, until 5 days after the onset of the rash
	Mumps-the child should be excluded for 5 days after the onset of swelling.
	Rubella- for 4 days after onset of the rash, and whilst unwell.
Meningitis	Children will be too ill to attend and there is no need to exclude siblings or other close contacts.
Molluscum contagiosum	None
Pharyngitis/tonsillitis	If the disease is known to be caused by streptococcal (bacterial) infection the child or member of staff should be kept away from the setting until 24 hours after the start of treatment. Otherwise they should stay at home while they feel unwell.
Rashes	A child who is unwell and has a rash should visit their GP to establish the reason for it.
Ringworm (Tinea)	Children need not be excluded but spread can be prevented by good personal hygiene, regular hand washing and use of separate towels and toilet articles. Parents should be encouraged to seek treatment.



Scarlet fever / Scarletina	Once a patient has been on antibiotic treatment for 24 hours they can return, provided they feel well enough.
Slapped cheek syndrome (Erythema Infectiosum/fifth disease)	An affected child need not be excluded because they are no longer infectious by the time the rash occurs.
Scabies	Not necessary, but treatment should be commenced.
Typhoid, paratyphoid (enteric fever)	Yes, an infected child is likely to be very ill and whilst infectious unable to attend the setting.
Tuberculosis (TB)	“Open” cases- until 2 weeks after treatment started. “Open” cases of drug resistant TB when the hospital physician advises. (“open” is determined by sputum samples).
Verrucae	Not necessary
Whooping cough (Pertussis)	An affected child and unvaccinated contacts under 7 years should be excluded until they have had 5 days of antibiotics.
Worms	Not necessary

We will actively promote the use of the ‘Catch it, Bin it, and Kill it’ initiative to teach children about good hygiene practices by promoting:

- The use of tissues for cough’s and colds
- Access to bins to dispose of used tissues
- Hand washing in warm soapy water as soon as possible, before eating, preparing food and after toileting.

### **Notification of exposure to infectious diseases**

If a child contracts any of the above infectious diseases, other parents will be informed by an emergency newsletter and information on the notice board.

If we have reason to believe that any child is suffering from a notifiable disease identified as such in the Public Health (Infection Diseases) Regulations 2010, we will inform the East Midlands North Health Protection Team and Ofsted (EYFS requirement 3.49). We will act on any advice given by them and inform Ofsted of any action taken.

Further guidance on infection control in schools and childcare settings can also be found at [www.hpa.org.uk](http://www.hpa.org.uk)



The East Midlands North Health Protection Team can be contacted at:

Institute of Population Health  
City Hospital  
Hucknall Road  
Nottingham  
NG5 1PB  
Telephone number: 0844 225 4524  
Fax: 01159 693523

This policy has been adopted by Riverside Playgroup.

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