



First Steps

Day Nursery & Pre School

44a Compton Road

Shepton Mallet

Somerset

BA4 5QT

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01	Our aim is to provide the best possible care for all our children at First Steps childcare especially when they are contagious to others. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that their child does not attend nursery and put other children/staff at risk.
	Therefore, if a parent continually sends a sick or unwell child to nursery we will be forced to review the child's place. Could we please ask that parents/carers keep us informed about their child's health and contact us via telephone or email to inform us if your child is unwell and unable to attend nursery.
	This allows us to communicate this to staff and parents, as well as Health Protection and Ofsted if it is a disease that requires notification. This is particularly important in case a child has to come into contact with a pregnant member of staff or parent. If a child appears to be unwell as they are brought into nursery, they may be refused admission. We do not provide day care for children who are unwell, have a temperature or have diarrhoea, sickness or have an infectious disease.
02	If your child is not well enough to participate in the daily activities, they should not attend nursery. An unwell child requires 1:1 care, which we cannot provide at nursery. If your child has not been themselves at home but is not showing signs of illness when brought into nursery, please make a member of staff aware of this and let them know the best contact number for you to be reached on throughout the day.
03	Parents MUST inform staff if they have administered medications such as Calpol or other pain relief or antihistamine to the child prior to them coming to nursery. This information is vital if we need to call for medical assistance. Children on long term medication will be assessed on an individual basis. If there is an outbreak of an illness in the nursery, the nursery manager will consult with the Local Health Protection unit for advice. We may decide to exclude children in order to control an outbreak, even where this is not listed in the Governments Exclusion Table for Schools, Nurseries and other childcare facilities.
04	Parents MUST inform the nursery if any child attending the nursery is admitted to hospital, and the discharge instructions must be followed prior to the child attending nursery. If your child needs to receive medication whilst in nursery care, please see the policy regarding administration of medication. You will be contacted by a member of staff using the contact details provided to collect your child immediately if they become unwell whilst they are in our care. The child will be cared for by a member of staff in a quiet area away from other children until parents/carers arrive to collect them. (Please ensure your child's contact details are updated at all times.
	<i>Please use the following guidelines before bringing your child back to nursery:</i> • Coughs, colds and flu: coughs and colds do not normally require the child to be excluded from nursery, but this depends on the severity of the illness and how the child is able to cope with the nursery day. The child should have a normal temperature and feel fit and healthy. • Conjunctivitis: Creams must have been received from the doctor and treatment should have commenced. Eyes should not have any discharge from them.

SICKNESS POLICY

	• Chicken pox: All spots must have completely scabbed over (usually five days incubation period) A notice will be displayed to inform parents of any cases of chicken pox within the nursery. • Impetigo: Medical advice must have been sought and sores must not be weeping. (usually a five-day incubation period). • Hand, foot and mouth: must be checked by a doctor and all sores treated and should not be weeping. Recommended at least 48 hours before returning to nursery (At times of large outbreaks or severe cases we may enforce a five-day incubation period). • Head lice: Parents will be contacted via telephone and asked to collect their child so that treatment can commence as soon as possible. A notice will be displayed for parents to inform them of any cases of head lice within the nursery. • Measles: Rash should have gone and child acting healthy. • Sickness/diarrhoea: At least 48 hours since last bout. • Temperature: The normal temperature for a child is 37c. If a child's temperature reaches 38c or above parents will be contacted for medical advice or collection.
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Prepared by	First Steps Childcare
Date	November 2024
Review date	September 2025