

Babies and Children with a High Temperature Policy

Policy Statement

While it is not our policy to care for sick children at the setting, we will closely monitor any child who has a slight temperature or appears unwell and take the appropriate action.



General Information

A normal temperature for babies and small children is between 36.4C to 37.2C. Any temperature of 37.5C or above is considered high and is classed as a fever.

Babies cannot regulate their own temperature and can have a high temperature for any of the following reasons:

- Infection
- Teething
- After immunisation
- Overdressed in a hot environment

If a child has a temperature and is unusually sleepy, won't take fluids or has any other unusual symptoms such as a rash, difficulty in breathing or signs of febrile convulsions, we will contact parents/carers immediately and/or call 111/999.

Actions:

If a child has a temperature of 37.5C, monitor and observe and take the child's temperature again after 15-20mins.

If the temperature is still 37.5C or above:

- Remove unnecessary clothing from the child.
- Contact the parents and follow the administering medicines policy.
- If the parent is unable to reach the Nursery straight away seek telephone permission to give Calpol to the child according to instructions on the medication and check that the child has not had any Calpol within the past four hours. Complete paperwork for parents to sign on Family and ensure that parents are informed on collection of child and that the parent acknowledges that the medication has been given, ensure that their temperature is recorded on the form. If an hour has passed and the temperature is still high, then the child will need to be collected.

- If a child's temperature is 38.5C or above parents are contacted immediately and will be asked to collect. Calpol can be administered if prior written consent and verbal consent on the telephone have been obtained. The child is monitored until collection.
- If parents cannot be contacted, the emergency contact on the registration form will be called and informed of the child's temperature. If no one can be contacted and the child's temperature is still high or rising and the child is obviously unwell, then 111 will be called to ask for advice.

Febrile Convulsions:

Febrile convulsions are fits that sometimes happen in children between 6 months and 6 years who have a high temperature. They can happen because of any illness that causes a high temperature (usually over 38.5C). Seek medical advice immediately and if the fitting continues for more than 5 minutes call an ambulance.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of: Thorney Island Nursery

Held on: 4th May 2026

Date to be reviewed: April 2027

Signed on behalf of the committee: _____

Name of signatory: _____

Role of signatory: _____

Manager's signature: _____

Manager's name: Karen Theobald

6.2 Managing children who are sick, infectious, or with allergies

During the COVID-19 outbreak, any child showing symptoms, such as a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; loss of taste or smell, the following sequence of actions need to be taken:

1. Child presents with symptoms; parents are requested to collect child and seek diagnosis from GP or take further advice from NHS 111.
2. Child's parents are requested to inform setting of outcome/diagnosis and keep child at home for the recommended exclusion period. For cases of suspected Coronavirus, staff and service users must adhere to current Government advice regarding self-exclusion even if no symptoms are present.
3. For confirmed cases of a notifiable disease and Coronavirus the setting must contact their local Health Protection Team (HPT) as soon as possible for further guidance. The line manager will inform the owner/trustees/directors and retain a confidential record.
4. Acting on the advice of the local HPT, the setting will either:
 - close for a set period and undertake a deep clean
 - carry on as usual but also undertake a deep clean
5. If a notifiable disease is confirmed, staff must inform the line manager immediately and Ofsted must be informed within 14 days. Cases of confirmed Coronavirus should be treated as a notifiable disease.
6. A deep clean is undertaken at the soonest opportunity following any illness outbreak. Hand hygiene messages are reinforced and staff are vigilant to any further signs of infection.
7. The manager continues to liaise with the HPT as required and keeps a full record of children affected, how long they are away from the setting and the date on which they return.