



“Where ideas begin”

## Illness Policy

### Illness Policy for Children

- Children or adults who are sick or who may be a source of infection should not attend the service. Some symptoms are:
  1. Diarrhoea and/or vomiting
  2. A temperature of 38C or above
  3. Eye discharge
  4. Rash or skin disorder
  5. Strep throat
  6. An earache or bad cough
- Children that have diarrhoea and vomiting should be excluded from the service for a minimum of 48 hours.
- Parents are advised that a child who has been sick during the night should not attend the service the next day.
- A child with a communicable illness (an infectious disease transmissible from person to person) should not attend the service.
- All parents are informed if a child attending the service has a communicable illness.

If a child is ill or becomes ill in the service, we will expect the parent/guardian to come for their child within 30 minutes. We will do our best to keep a sick child separate from well children.

If all attempts at contacting a parent/guardian or authorised person are unsuccessful, the next action may have to be to transfer the child to hospital by ambulance.

**Any child ill with fever, headache and vomiting will be sent home as soon as their parents/guardians can be contacted. Parents will be advised to contact their doctor immediately.**

**A child with fever, headache and vomiting will not be allowed to wait indefinitely at the service and an ambulance will be called.**

### *Exclusion periods for infectious illnesses*

Ill children and staff should only return when they have recovered. Mini Trinity is guided and informed by the exclusion notes for the different diseases outlined in Chapter 9 of Management of Infectious Diseases in Childcare Facilities and other Childcare Settings (2012) page 33.

<b>Infectious Disease</b>	<b>Exclusion Period</b>
Chicken Pox	5-7 days after appearance of rash
Hand, Foot and Mouth	While a pupil is unwell – he/she should be kept home
Head lice/Nits	Unnecessary
Impetigo	24 hours after commencing anti-biotics
MRSA	No exclusion if on the skin or nose
Ringworm	Excluded once they commence treatment
Rubella (German Measles)	7 days after the onset of the rash
Scabies	Not necessary once treatment starts
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after receiving anti-biotics
Slapped Cheek Syndrome	Not necessary
Winter Vomiting Disease (norovirus)	48 hours after resolution of symptoms

### *Procedure for notifying infectious diseases*

When Mini Trinity is informed by the Department of Public Health of a diagnosis of a child attending the service or an employee, unpaid worker, contractor, or other person working in the service, as suffering from an infectious disease within the meaning of the Infectious Disease Regulations 1981 (SI No 390 of 1981) and amendments – See;

[www.hpsc.ie/notifiableDiseases/listofNotifiableDiseases/](http://www.hpsc.ie/notifiableDiseases/listofNotifiableDiseases/) - this will be notified to Tusla Early Years Inspectorate by the owner of Mini Trinity Montessori using the Childcare Act (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 part VIII, Article 3, Notification of incident form available at:

### *Outbreak of an infectious disease*

In the event of an outbreak of infectious disease, immediate contact will be made by the manager of the creche with the Department of Public Health. Management and staff will be guided by Management of Infectious Diseases in Childcare Facilities and Other Childcare Settings (2012) for guidance.

### **Illness Policy for Staff**

- Staff with a communicable illness should not attend the service.
- All parents are informed if a member of staff has a communicable illness.

- Arrangements (when possible) are in place to provide relief cover while staff are on sick leave.

### **Immunisation Policy**

On enrolment at Mini Trinity, parents/guardians are asked for their child's immunisation record. ***Parents have the right to choose to Immunise their child or not.*** Not all children attending this service may be immunised. Parents/Guardians of children who are **not** immunised are made aware of the dangers of infectious diseases. Parents are encouraged to keep up to date with current vaccination requirements and to ensure the at the service is kept informed and the child' record updated when required.

If a child is not immunised, parents/guardians must be advised that their children will be excluded from the service during outbreaks of some vaccine preventable diseases such as Measles, Whooping cough etc, even if their child is well. This is to protect their non-immunised child.

In the event of an outbreak of any infectious disease, all parents will be verbally informed. A dated notice informing all parents of any infectious disease outbreak, will be displayed on our notice board.

This policy is compliant with the 2018 School Age Regulations and it is available to all Parents, Staff and Children of our service.