

Policy Statement

Links Childcare prioritises the health and wellbeing of the children in the service and believes a child needs to be fit and well to benefit from attending the service. If children are sick at home or become ill throughout their day, the service believes the best place for them is at home where they can rest fully and recover. This policy is available to all on www.linkschildcare.ie (<https://linkschildcare.ie/about-us/our-policies/>) or contact us at info@linkschildcare.ie.

Principle

This policy is underpinned by the Preschool Regulations 2006 and 2016.

Procedure

1. High Temperature

- If a child has a suspected temperature, the electronic thermometer will be used to take an accurate reading. A temperature of 38 degree Celsius or higher is considered high.
- A number of measures will be used to try reduce the temperature:
 - The desire to improve the overall comfort of the febrile (fevered) child will be balanced against the desire to simply lower the body temperature
 - Before administering antipyretic medication other measures will be taken, to try to reduce temperature unless otherwise directed in writing, by the parent
 - Clothing will be loosened and removed as necessary
 - Temperature of the room will be regulated
 - Comfort and reassurance will be given to the child
- If unsuccessful, the parent will be contacted and informed that Calpol will be administered, providing there is Calpol Administration Form on file.
- The child will be monitored and made comfortable allowing them to rest.
- If there is little or no improvement after 30-60 minutes, the parent will be asked to collect their child.

2. Vomiting/ Diarrhoea

- If a child is vomiting or has diarrhoea, he/she is considered too unwell to attend the service.
- Parents are asked to keep their child at home until 48 hours clear of the vomiting or diarrhoea

3. Infectious Illness

- For a list of common infectious disease, their symptoms and exclusion period please refer to the Management of Infectious Diseases in a Childcare Facility.
- A notice will be sent to Parents/Guardians if a confirmed case of an infectious disease arises at a crèche. To avoid misinformation, medical confirmation will be sought from a parent/guardian who is reporting his/her child experiencing symptoms of an infection disease.
- Please refer to the Exclusion of sickness table:



LINKS CHILDCARE POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Exclusion of Sick Children Policy

Last Review Date: April 2023

Policy No. 23

Issued: 2012

Common Rashes and Skin Infections	Recommended period to be kept away from crèche	Comments
Chickenpox	Until scabs are dry, usually 5-7 days from onset of rash	<i>SEE: Vulnerable Children and Female Staff - Pregnancy</i>
German measles (rubella)	Seven days from onset of rash	Preventable by immunization (MMR x 2) <i>SEE: Female Staff - Pregnancy</i>
Hand, foot and mouth	None, once child is well	Contact your local DPH if a large number of children are affected. Exclusion may be considered in some circumstances
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted and healed, or 24 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment	Antibiotic treatment speeds healing and reduces the infectious period
Measles	Four days from onset of rash	Preventable by vaccination (MMR x 2) <i>SEE: Vulnerable Children and Female Staff - Pregnancy</i>
Ringworm	Exclusion not usually required	Treatment is required
Scabies	Children can return after first treatment	Household and close contacts require treatment
Scarlet fever	Child can return 24 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment	Antibiotic treatment recommended for the affected child
Slapped cheek/fifth disease. Parvovirus B19	None	<i>SEE: Female Staff - Pregnancy</i>
Shingles	Exclude only if rash is weeping and cannot be covered	Can cause chickenpox in those who are not immune i.e. have not had chickenpox. It is spread by very close contact and touch. <i>SEE: Vulnerable Children and Female Staff - Pregnancy</i>

4. Other

If a child has head lice, parents will be notified at the discretion of the Manager/Supervisor. Parents will be asked to treat their child immediately before returning to creche. If a child persistently presents with head lice it will be necessary to exclude him/her from the crèche until the condition has been treated.

If a child commences a course of antibiotics and has not consumed the antibiotic previously, he/she must not attend the creche until he/she has consumed the antibiotic for 24 hours+. Children will not be excluded if taking antibiotic medicine, if the child has been on the medication before or has consumed the medication for 24hours+.

Review: Management, in consultation with staff monitors, and reviews the effectiveness of this policy yearly or as required.

Review Dates:	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	January 2020	October 2020
	April 2023									