

Contingency Planning Influenza

Unfortunately it is a known fact that children are “highly efficient spreaders of respiratory infection both amongst themselves and to adults”

Should a child show symptoms of influenza:

- They will be taken to a warm quiet area and comforted until they are taken home. Other children will not be allowed into this area. Staff will wear protective clothing gloves, aprons etc
- The parent or other authorised adults will be contacted to take the child home.
- Parents are asked not to bring their children to the setting if the child or other family members show symptoms of or have flu

Should a staff or their family's member show symptoms of influenza:

- They will be asked to inform the Manager as soon as possible and refrain from attending the setting.
- Other staff or volunteers will be called on to ensure that adult to children ratios are not affected.
- Should they become ill during session times, they will be sent home
- Should adult to child ratios be affected then the emergency contingency plan must be implemented. (Children will be taken to Waterloo Primary School until other staff arrive or parents are contacted to collect them)

Every effort will be made to ensure the setting remains open during influenza pandemic, with additional systems put in place to minimise the spread of infection:

- additional staff,
- additional cleaning routines and
- Additional attention paid to disposal of tissues and personal hygiene.

There may be extreme circumstances when the Manager or Supervisor will have the responsibility of making the decision to close the setting. This could be:

- The government or local authority declare an Influenza Pandemic in our area, and recommend closure
- Too many staff are ill

Should the decision be made to close the setting then parents will be informed as soon as possible. They will also be informed when the setting is able to re open. It is therefore essential that parent's ensure that contact details provided to the setting are kept up to date.

Unfortunately fee payments still have to be paid during periods of absence and closure (we still have to meet our overheads)

Dated: 29/10/2009

Review Date: 01/11/2010