



Illness and Injury Policy September 2025

Mission

Minibugs Nurseries Illness and Injury Policy is in place to ensure that children who fall ill or sustain an injury whilst under the care of Minibugs are treated with the upmost care and attention. Minibugs adopts an approach that puts the child's health and wellbeing at the centre of actions taken, it will be a partnership approach with parents/carers and all members of the nursery team.

Training

All staff at Minibugs Nurseries are paediatric first aid qualified within 3 months of employment, and this is renewed as a minimum every 3 years.

If a child's health care plan identifies specific training required to meet the needs of the child, this will be dealt with in accordance with the Admissions policy.

Illness Forms

Some children may have a long term/preexisting illness before or during their time at nursery that the team will need to be aware of.

For children who are joining Minibugs this information will be captured as part of the registration process and addressed in line with the Admissions policy. For children who are already registered the parent/carer must inform the management team as soon as possible, following a diagnosis.

Parents/carers will be invited to complete a Childs Health Care Plan, and where applicable a risk assessment. These must be completed and provide for a suitable and safe environment before the child attends their first session following diagnosis.

Illness

Minibugs Nurseries will always put the health and wellbeing of a child first and believe that children should not be left at nursery if they are unwell.

If children are unwell or are in the process of recovery, as well as the risk of spread of infection, they themselves are susceptible to contracting other infections that may be present. Therefore, in the interests of all children and staff, we kindly ask that children who are unwell do not attend the nursery.

Excluding unwell children from the nursery ensures the setting maintains a healthy environment for everyone whilst facilitating the recovery of those who are unwell. It will be the nursery management team's assessment and decision on whether to accept a child into nursery or to send a child home if they are presenting signs and symptoms of being unwell.

Some infectious illnesses/diseases have published exclusion periods. Minibugs follow exclusion periods as laid out in the UK Health Security Agency's 'Health Protection in Education and Childcare Settings' guidance.



Should a child be diagnosed with an illness that requires notification to the local Health Protection Team (HPT), Minibugs will be guided as per the advice given by them and will communicate this wider with parent/carers where instructed.

At times of heightened cases of illness, an enhanced deep clean of the nursery and its resources will take place to reduce the spread of infection. PPE and handwashing will be more frequent on these occasions for all staff and children.

Accident/Injury

Minibugs Nurseries are specifically designed to minimise risks where possible for children, staff and visitors, with procedures in place to ensure the environment is continuously checked for any potential hazards.

If an accident happens and an injury is sustained by a child whilst they are at nursery, a paediatric first aid trained member of staff will administer the necessary treatment. Details of the accident/injury will be recorded on an Accident Form and shared with parent/carers either at the end of the child's session or, where deemed appropriate, via a phone call before collection.

However, should a child present with symptoms after sustaining an injury that the management team deem it necessary for a medical professional to review, then the parent/carer will be contacted to collect the child and seek medical care.

Emergency Medical Care

Should there be an accident/injury that requires emergency medical care, an ambulance will be called in the first instance and Minibugs will pass on any relevant information held to the medical professionals. Parents/carers will then be contacted. Minibugs will ensure that the child is reassured and cared for by a familiar staff member until the parent/carer arrives, this includes travelling to the hospital should a parent/carer have to meet at the hospital rather than the nursery.

It is essential that parent/carers keep the nursery management team updated with any contact detail changes.

Head Bump

Minibugs defines a head injury as any injury that is sustained to any part of the body above the shoulders, this includes:

- Mouth
- Chin
- Eyes
- Forehead
- Any part of the back of the head
- Ears

Should a child sustain a head injury whilst at nursery then in addition to an Accident Form the child will be monitored with observations recorded every 10 minutes for a minimum of 30 minutes on a Head Injury Monitoring Form.



The parents/carer will be notified with a phone call following a head injury and the child may remain at nursery if the nursery management team deem it appropriate.

However, should a child present with symptoms after a head bump that the management team deem it necessary for a medical professional to review, then the parent/carer will be contacted to collect the child and seek medical care.

For significant head injuries the nursery will follow the above process for emergency medical care.

Minibugs will provide head injury information to parents/carers upon collection in addition to sharing the Accident Form and Head Injury Monitoring Form.

Pre-Existing Injuries

If a child arrives at nursery with a pre-existing injury the parent/carer will be required to complete a Pre-existing Injury Form. Should a staff member notice a pre-existing injury during the session, they will call the parent/carer for details and complete the form, which requires a parent/carer signature on collection.

Should a member of the management team have concerns about the injury, the Safeguarding Policy and procedure will be followed.