**Illness policy**

Happy Kids strives to provide an environment that is healthy for the children attending and staff members. To maintain such an environment children and staff need to be fit, well and in good health; sick children i.e., those who pose a significant risk of infection to others, should remain at home. This ensures both children and staff are at a reduced risk of becoming unwell and ensures the setting remains open fully to all families. Health guidelines indicate that it is not necessary to operate a policy of exclusion for all child illnesses, but it is important that staff and parents/carers understand when exclusion is appropriate and necessary.

**Covid:**

As you are aware the restrictions for Covid are gradually being lifted and there is no requirement to regularly test or isolate if you are asymptomatic with Covid. However, to protect the children, staff and ensure we can remain fully open we ask that you consider isolating if your child has tested positive on a LFT device. If your child has symptoms of Covid; a high temperature of 37.8 or above, a new continuous cough and a loss of taste and smell, then we ask that you keep them at home for at least 5 full days before returning to the setting.

**Other illnesses:**

Parents/ carers are asked to keep their children off for at least 48 hours if:

* They have had a temperature within the last 24 hours
* Medications such as Calpol have been administered within 24 hours of attendance
* They have had sickness and/or diarrhoea (they must be clear for at least 48 hours before returning)

In addition to the above there are also other childhood illnesses that require periods of exclusion from the setting and for varying periods of time. This include but are not limited to:

* Chicken pox - a child is required to stay at home for at least the first five days from when the spots appear, and they should be crusted over before returning.
* Impetigo - a child is required to stay off until the lesions are crusted or for 48 hours after starting medication.
* Whooping cough – no return to the setting for 21 days from the onset of symptoms unless antibiotics have been prescribed, in which case they can return after 48 hours.

If you are unsure if your child should be attending the setting, please call on **01635 45879** for clarification.