**Sickness Policy**

Parents/carers are asked to keep their children at home if they have an infection. Should your child become unwell Frome Valley Preschool must be contacted on the morning of the absence. The following table sets out the guidelines for the length of period a child must remain away from the setting before returning.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Illness** | **Recommended period to kept away from preschool** | **Comments** |
| Athletes Foot | None | Not a serious condition  Treatment is recommended |
| Cold Sores | None | Avoid kissing and contact with sores. Avoid sores are generally mild and self-limiting |
| Chickenpox | 5 days from onset of rash. | To be absent from preschool until the spots have completely dried. |
| Conjunctivitis | 24 hours after starting eye drops or ointment. | If an outbreak/cluster occurs the local Health Protection Unit (HPU) are informed |
| Diarrhoea and/or vomiting | 48 hours after symptoms of Diarrhoea/vomiting have stopped. |  |
| E.coli 0157  VTEC  Typhoid\*  Shingles | 48 hours from last episode of Diarrhoea  Further exclusion may be required for some children until they are no longer excreting | Further exclusion may be required for young children under five and those who have difficulty in adhering to hygiene practices. |
| Flu (Influenza) | Until recovered |  |
| German Measles \*  (Rubella) | 6 days from onset of rash. | Preventable by immunisation |
| Glandular Fever | None |  |
| Hand, foot and mouth | Children can return to child care or school after the fever is gone. Most often, this takes **2 to 3 days**. Children with widespread blisters may need to stay home until the blisters dry up. | Exclusion may be considered in some circumstances |
| Head Lice | None | Treatment recommended only in cases where live head lice have been seen |
| Impetigo | Until lesions are crusted and healed. | Antibiotic treatment may speed heeling and reduce infectious period |
| Measles\* | 4 Days from onset of rash. | Preventable by vaccination |
| Meningococcal Meningitis /Septicaemia\* | Until recovered | Preventable by vaccination. No exclusion necessary for siblings. |
| Meningitis Viral\* | None | Milder illness |
| Mumps\* | 5 days from onset of swollen glands. | Preventable by vaccination |
| Ringworm | Exclusion not usually required. | Treatment is required |
| Scabies | Child can return after first treatment | Household and close contacts require treatment. |
| Scarlet Fever \* | Child can 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment. | Antibiotic treatment is recommended. |
| Shingles | Exclude only if rash is weeping and cannot be covered | Can cause chicken pox in those not already immune. |
| Slapped cheek | None |  |
| Threadworms | None | Treatment is recommended for the child household contacts. |
| Tonsillitis | None | There are many causes, but most cases are due to viruses and do not need antibiotics. |
| Verrucae and Warts | None | Verrucae should be covered with a plaster in swimming pools, changing rooms etc. |
| Whooping Cough\*  (Pertussis) | 5 days from commencing antibiotic treatment, or 21 days from onset of illness if no antibiotics. | Preventable by vaccination. After treatment non-infectious coughing may continue for many weeks. |

*\* Diseases the Local Authority have to be informed of.*

Information obtained from the Health Protection Agency. (February ‘14)

More information available on www.hpa.uk

Frome Valley Preschool will be given 3 emergency contact numbers for all children on the registration form and will be regularly updated. Parents should ensure Frome Valley Preschool members of staff are notified of any changes to contact information.

If children become unwell whilst at preschool:-

* Parents/carers will be contacted and asked to collect the child.
* While awaiting parents/carers arrival the unwell child will be taken to a quiet corner away from other children and cared for by a practitioner.
* If parent/carer cannot be contacted, other emergency numbers will be tried. Parents/carers are asked to inform Frome Valley Preschool of any conditions or illnesses.