

Notifiable Diseases Policy

Written 25/03/2023 – Jennifer Heald

Reviewed by JH 08/10/2024

Humming Bees Day Nursery is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for children and staff. As part of our commitment, we have implemented a policy and procedure to identify and manage notifiable diseases. This policy outlines the types of notifiable diseases that may occur in the nursery, the steps we take to prevent and control the spread of these diseases, and the procedures for notifying relevant authorities.

Types of Notifiable Diseases

The following is a list of notifiable diseases that are relevant to our nursery:

- Acute encephalitis
- Anthrax
- Botulism
- Brucellosis
- Cholera
- Diphtheria
- Food poisoning (if suspected to be caused by contaminated food)
- Legionnaires' disease
- Leptospirosis
- Malaria
- Measles
- Meningococcal meningitis
- Mumps
- Plague
- Poliomyelitis
- Rabies
- Rubella
- Scarlet fever
- Smallpox
- Tetanus
- Tuberculosis
- Typhoid fever
- Viral hemorrhagic fever

- Whooping cough

Prevention and Control

Our nursery takes the following steps to prevent and control the spread of notifiable diseases:

- Staff and children who are ill are advised to stay at home until they have fully recovered (see Sickness and Illness Policy).
- Staff and children are encouraged to wash their hands regularly and follow good hygiene practices.
- Toys, equipment, and surfaces are regularly cleaned and disinfected.
- Staff are trained to recognize the signs and symptoms of notifiable diseases, and to report any suspected cases to the designated person.

Notifying Relevant Authorities

If a notifiable disease is suspected or confirmed in the nursery, the following steps will be taken:

- The person in charge (Manager or Deputy Manager) will be notified immediately.
- The person in charge will consult with the designated person (Owner) to confirm the diagnosis and assess the risk of transmission.
- If necessary, the local health authority will be notified in accordance with their guidelines.
- If an outbreak of a notifiable disease is confirmed, the local health authority will be notified and appropriate action will be taken in consultation with them.

Communication with Parents/Carers

Parents and carers will be notified if a notifiable disease is suspected or confirmed in the nursery.

This will be done in accordance with our Confidentiality Policy, and will be communicated as follows:

- The person in charge will inform parents/carers of the suspected/confirmed case and the steps being taken to prevent and control the spread of the disease.
- Parents/carers will be advised to seek medical advice if they or their child develop any symptoms of the disease.
- Parents/carers will be advised not to bring their child to the nursery if they or anyone in their household is ill with a notifiable disease.

Review: This policy and procedure will be reviewed annually or as required by any changes in legislation or best practice.