

November 2021 Newsletter

We can't believe we are approaching November already! We do still go outside during the Winter months so please ensure your child comes to nursery with the appropriate clothing to keep them dry and warm when we do access the garden. All children go outside to play even those with colds. Of course, we wouldn't keep the children outside for prolonged periods when it is super freezing or wet, but it is important for the children to be able to have access to the outside area to develop their motor skills, to breathe in the fresh air and to burn off energy for a good nights sleep.

Sickness - This time of year often means that the spread of illness is rife and so we ask you to re-fresh yourselves with our sickness policy. If your child is unwell then we ask you to please keep them at home to help with their recovery, we are more than happy to administer prescribed medications, we will just ask that you sign them in when you drop your child off at the nursery. In the policy you will see that there is now a definition of what a "well child" looks like to make it a little easier for you to decide about whether nursery is the right environment for your child.

POPPIES DAYCARE NURSERY LTD.

Managing children with allergies, or who are sick or infectious

Policy statement

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

- If children appear unwell during the day or have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach, the Room supervisor calls the parents and asks them to collect their child or send them to a known carer on their behalf.
- If a child has a high temperature of 38°C or more we will:
 - give them plenty of fluids,
 - look out for signs of dehydration,
 - monitor your child and call you to come and collect the child,
 - offer to give the child an age-appropriate amount of paracetamol if you give permission. This will be recorded on a meeting with parents form.
- Temperature is taken using a digital ear thermometer that is kept in the first aid box.
- In extreme cases the child is taken to the nearest hospital and the parents are informed.
- Parents are asked to take their child to their GP before returning to nursery; the nursery can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness or diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home for at least 24 hours before returning to nursery.
- After diarrhoea or sickness, parents are asked to keep their children away from nursery for 48 hours after the last bout of diarrhoea/sickness.
- Conjunctivitis –we will use our professional discretion to decide whether your child is able to come into the nursery. We will look at whether your child's eyes are discharging, how red they are and whether the child is in discomfort before we make our decision. Any prescribed treatments can be administered at the nursery if they are signed in by the parents.
- The nursery has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times in line with NHS guidelines
- The nursery reserves the right to exclude children according to the nursery's policies and terms and conditions.

What is a well child?

We consider the following to be a fair representation of a child that is well and able to come into nursery.

- A child who is happy and able to take part fully in nursery life
- A child who does not have a temperature
- A child who is not dependent on Calpol
- A child who is not reliant on 1:1 care

Reporting of notifiable diseases'

- If a child or adults is reported as suffering from a notifiable disease under the Public Health (infectious diseases) Regulations 2010 the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency.
- When the nursery becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the manager informs Ofsted and acts on any advice by given by the HPA.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure

- HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis, (A, B and C) are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults.
- Single use gloves and aprons are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and bagged for parents to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using Sanitare Powder and then cleaned down using mild disinfectant this is then disposed of by clearing away into the clinical waste bin.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition, although in exceptional cases the parent may be asked to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying a case of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family.

Car parking - When using the car parks please can we ask you to be mindful of other users, this means leaving room for other parents to be able to get into their cars and get their children into their car seats, we also ask you to be mindful of the children who are also using the car park and drive accordingly. We have allocated parking spaces for parents – at Tidworth this is the top car park and at Perham this is the car park at the front of the building so please use these spaces when dropping of and collecting your child, thank you.

Photographs – the photographer will be at Tidworth on 1st November and at Perham Down on 8th November. If you are not normally in on this day you are more than welcome to book a slot and bring your child in for a picture. We will ask that no siblings come into the nursery this time due to COVID. If you have siblings within the nursery, they can of course be photographed together please just let your room supervisor know.

Thermal comfort – We will still be ventilating the nursery throughout the Winter months to try to prevent the spread of infection and as part of our COVID action plan. If you would like to layer up your child we can take of or add layers during the day as and when required, thank you.

Hot Lunches – You can't have missed the introduction of the new lunch menus at Tidworth. We are really excited to move forward with this new provider and we hope you might give hot lunches a try even if you haven't before. The cost of the lunch remains the same at £2.75 and the children get a healthy nutritious 2 course hot meal to get them through the day. If this is successful, we may look

at being able to offer a hot tea option for parents as well. But lets get our feet under the table with lunches first and we can see how popular it is before we commit to that.

Room of the month – We have all had a tough year and we have really focused on try to inspire and recognise the effort our teams are putting into their roles at the Nursery. After all, without dedicated staff Poppies could not function. We felt a nice way to do this would be for us to choose a room of the month at each nursery. This month we have chosen Daffodils at Perham for their commitment to offering a varied, exciting curriculum based on their children’s interests. The children have thoroughly enjoyed taking part and exploring all the activities on offer. We also wanted to recognise the fabulous leadership within the room which is inspiring to the whole team. At Tidworth it was a tough decision, but we eventually decided on Daisies & Buttercups who have implemented lots of changes within the room to ensure that the room is a cosy child centred environment which is just right for learning to happen. The supervisor in this room has really focused on the routine and nurturing element which is so essential in the baby room. Well done to both teams, we look forward to seeing who will take the prize next month.

If you have any nominees, you would like to put forward or any praise that you wish to share you can send this to us on poppies@poppiesdcn.com and you could help us to choose next month’s winners.

Parents Evenings – A reminder that parents evenings for Daffodils, Ladybirds, Sunflowers & Butterflies will be on 17th November. Our appointment sheets are already out so please see your room supervisor to book an appointment. Due to COVID we will be stringently sticking to our appointment times so that we can minimise the amount of people in the building at any one time. We would ask that you please wear a mask while in the nursery if you are able to. In a bid to try and reduce your time in the nursery we will be giving out your child’s learning journey prior to you coming in so that you can look through it before you come into the nursery and then you can ask your child’s keyworker any questions you want to during your time slot.

Please can all parents enter the nurseries by the front door and then we will ask you to leave via the fire exit in your child’s room. Please do not come into the nursery until as close to your appointment time as possible. This allows us to quickly give everything a wipe down before you come into the room, thank you.

Let’s keep everything crossed that the government guidance does not change and we are able to go ahead as planned.

Christmas

Christmas Creative Mornings – We are still planning to go ahead with our creative mornings, but we will be guided by any government guidance as we move forward. You will be able to come along to your child’s room from 9.00am – 11.00am to come and create some lovely festive artwork with them where we provide all the resources you will need to let your creative juices flow. You do not have to stay for the whole 2 hours but even 15 minutes would really be wonderful, and your child will really enjoy you being in their space after all this time. A reminder of the dates for you:

1st December - Snowdrops & Daisies & Buttercups

2nd December - Daffodils & Sunflowers

3rd December - Ladybirds & Butterflies

If you have any questions about this then please speak to your supervisor or drop us an email pn poppies@poppiesdcn.com

Nativities - After much debate we have decided that for our pre-school room Nativities we will follow the same procedure as last year and sadly parents will not be able to come into the nursery. An ex-parent who has a photography business will come in and film the play as well as taking still photographs. The video and stills will be available to purchase through her website.

We know this is not ideal at all and it really saddens us that we are in the position of making this decision again this year. However, both our pre-school rooms are quite small spaces, and we just don't feel that we can have that amount of people in such a confined space especially as COVID cases are on the rise and there are warnings that this could continue as we move into Winter. We know this is something we need to learn to live with, but we would like to err on the side of caution especially with it being so close to Christmas. We hope you understand that we are just trying to keep everyone safe.