

## Illness (Children) Policy

Health and Social Care Standards:

*3.14 I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisational codes.*

*3.17 I am confident that people respond promptly, including when I ask for help.*

When a child arrives at a Stramash setting, they should be fit for play. Staff are able to identify children who may be feeling unwell or are not in a position to settle into the session. At this point, staff will assess whether the child is fit to join the session, or they need support (ie a sleep first) or if they would be better resting at home. **Stramash staff are within their right to refuse entry if they believe it is not in the best interests of the child or the wider group.**

If a child should become unwell when attending a Stramash setting, Staff will promptly contact the emergency contacts to inform them of the child's symptoms and advise them on action to be taken - typically arranging for collection of the child. *For more information about contacting parents/carers, please see Stramash's Emergency Contacts procedure.*

If a child requires medication due to illness/infection, Stramash staff are able to administer this. However staff will ensure the child is fit for play regardless of medication provided. *For more information, please see Stramash's Medication policy.*

As per the guidance provided by the NHS through the Health Protection Team (2010)<sup>1</sup> and the Care Inspectorate document ***Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings (Day Care and Childminding Setting)*** (2018)<sup>2</sup>, Stramash follows national advice regarding exclusion periods for certain illnesses or infections, such as:

- **Vomiting** Child must be off from nursery for 48 hours once free from the symptoms
- **Conjunctivitis** The child should be receiving treatment for 24 hours before attending nursery
- **Diarrhoea** The child must be off from the nursery for 48 hours once free from the symptoms
- **Chickenpox** Spots must be dry before the child can attend nursery
- **Head lice** No exclusion period but the child must be receiving treatment
- **Tonsillitis** 24 hours from when they start their antibiotics

For more information, please see the Exclusion Guidance attached to this document.

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<sup>1</sup> [Health Protection in Schools \(2010\) Health Protection team](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings \(Day Care and Childminding Setting\) \(2018\)](#)