Nido Montessori Nursery

Health

Statutory Requirement

Medicines

3.44 The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents and or/ carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if the children are ill.

3.45 Providers must have and implement a policy, and procedures, for administering medicines. It must include systems for obtaining information about a child's need for medicines, and for keeping this information up to date. Training must be provided for staff where the administration of medicine required medical or technical knowledge. Medicines must not usually be administered unless they have been prescribed for a child by a doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist (medicines containing aspirin should only be given if they are prescribed by a doctor).

3.46 Medicine (both prescription and non-prescription) must only be administered to a child where written permission for that particular medicine has been obtained from the child's parent and/or carers on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable.

Policy Statement

Nido Montessori Nursery provides care for children. We promote health by identifying any allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic substance and through the prevention of cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections.

Procedure

Medicines

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

If children appear unwell during the day - have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach - parents will be contacted and asked to collect the child, or send a known carer on their behalf. Staff will make every effort to make the child comfortable until the parent or carer arrives.

Fever

If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool by removing clothing down to underpants. Heaters are switched off, and the child is kept well hydrated.

The temperature is taken with thermometer from first aid box, and logged on the temperature chart kept in the medical file.

Staff are to check the Calpol consent forms kept in the children's admin file to determine whether it can be administered should the temperature is high.

If a child's temperature is higher than 37.5 degrees centigrade, it is classed as a high fever and the parents are immediately contacted. The parents are informed that one dose of calpol will be administered (if consent form filled in and agreed with) and asked whether the child has been given any other medicine (prescribed or other) during the past 24 hours. This is to ensure that the child is not overdosed.

If a child has a high temperature/fever temperature and a parent cannot be contacted, one dose of calpol will be administered (consent required - check first)

If a child's temperature is high and a dose of calpol administered then it is nursery policy that the parent must come to pick up the child from the setting immediately.

First Aid/Emergency Treatment:

In the event of an accident or emergency during the day, every attempt will be made by staff to contact a parent or guardian. Should this prove impossible, any immediate treatment which is required will be given by a member of staff, doctor or local hospital, whichever is the most appropriate.

To prevent spread of infection

Nido Montessori Nursery can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.

We adhere to the guidance given by the Health Protection Agency (HPA). This advises that where the children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48hrs before returning to the setting.

Diarrhoea or vomiting
Children with these conditions should be kept off nursery. They can return 48 hours after their symptoms disappear. Most cases of vomiting or diarrhoea get better without treatment, but if the symptoms persist, parents are asked to consult their GP.

Excludable diseases
The HPA list of excludable diseases is kept at the nursery and is also obtainable from: http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20nurserys_poster.pdf

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'

If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering from notifiable disease under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency.

When the setting becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the manager informs Ofsted and acts on any advice given the Health Protection Agency.

Procedures, for administering medicines

Prior to starting nursery with us, parents are asked whether their child suffers from any known allergies or has any medical needs for which they require medicines. This is recorded on the registration form in the medical folder. Staff are made aware of this prior to the child's first day.

In the event of an allergy a risk assessment form is completed, detailing the following:-
the allergen; the nature of the allergic reaction (e.g. anaphylactic shock, rash, reddening of the skin, breathing problems etc); what to do in case of allergic reactions; any medication used and how it is to be used; control measures; a review.

The form is kept in the child's personal file and in the medical folder. A copy is shown to all members of staff. Staff are made aware of where any medication is kept and who is trained in its use.

Parents/Nurses must show or train staff in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction.

In terms of allergens, no nuts or nut products are used within the setting. Parents are made aware that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in. Parents are also aware that there are children with allergies to egg and intolerances to strawberries and dairy in the classroom. They are asked not to bring in products containing these foodstuffs.

Prescription Medication

The nursery must have the parents or guardians prior written consent (See medical consent form). This consent must be kept on the file. Oral or other medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.

The nursery reserves the right to administer Calpol if their child has a fever temperature (see above). The setting must have received the parent's guardian's written consent (detailing whether the child is allergic to calpol or paracetamol) prior to administering of Calpol.

Staff must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.

All risk assessment procedures need to be adhered to for the correct storage and administration of the medication.

Children who have been administered medication prior to the start of nursery.

It is nursery policy that any child who has been administered medication (prescription or non-prescription) must inform a member of staff in the morning before the start of nursery, detailing the time and dosage given. Parents must also notify staff of any medication that has been administered during the past 24 hours containing paracetamol (e.g. Calpol), so as to avoid the likelihood of overdose if the child is taken ill at nursery. If children are given medication to reduce fever or pain, they should remain at home until symptoms improve.