

FIRST BRIDGE CENTRE



Sick Child Policy and Notification Procedure

JConduit

Joanne Conduit-Smith
Director/Nominated Person

Review date: September 2021



Sick Child Policy and Notification Procedure

Introduction

Working with children, we must ensure that they are well and ready for learning. Therefore, if your child is unwell, we ask that you notify us immediately to cancel services (both at home and in the centre). This also protects us from spreading illness to other clients and their families.

Please inform us if your child is unwell at the start of sessions.

This way we can monitor him or her throughout the day for worsening symptoms and be aware that their general disposition may be altered due to illness or fatigue. Additionally, we will take extra steps to sanitise the environment to prevent the spreading of illness to other children, staff or visitors.

Too Sick for Therapy

It may be determined that your child is too sick for therapy. The following signs and symptoms are indications that your child is ill and not able to participate in therapy (at home or in the centre):

- **Diarrhea:** You must keep your child at home. Your child should be diarrhea-free for at least 48 hours before resuming therapy. If your child has a bout of diarrhea during sessions, you will be notified that the home sessions will be canceled for the day or that you need to pick them up from centre based services—no exceptions.
- **Fever:** You must keep your child at home and cancel home-based therapy, even if the fever has been tempered by medication, We are unable to provide your child with additional medication, such as paracetamol, to treat fever. If a fever occurs during sessions you will be notified that the home sessions will be cancelled for the day or that you need to pick them up from centre based services.
- **Vomiting:** You must keep your child at home and cancel home-based therapy. Your child should be free of symptoms for at least 48 hours before resuming therapy, especially if the vomiting occurs in conjunction with symptoms of influenza or infection. If your child vomits during therapy, the home sessions will be canceled for the day or you will be called to pick them up from the centre. *Please note, that if your child vomits due to anxiety or other behavioural reasons, our clinical team will work with you to address this and it will not impact therapy sessions.*



- **Contagious illnesses:** If your child has a contagious illness such as unexplained rash, conjunctivitis, etc., we will follow the NHS recommendations concerning attendance for schools and nursery settings. If a contagious illness occurs at First Bridge Centre, this information will be communicated to our families.
- **Cold/Flu:** Use your best judgement whether or not your child is well enough to participate in therapy. If you do opt to have your session, please let us know that your child has cold or flu symptoms. If symptoms worsen or your child is unable to perform at their typical level due to apparent illness, you may be called to pick up your child from the centre early or home sessions may be canceled for the day so that they may rest and recover.

See Appendix 1 for a summary of whether your child is well enough to attend the centre or take place in home-based services.

Notification Procedure

If you have determined that your child is too sick for therapy (at home or in the centre) based on the above guidelines, please notify us as soon as possible (prior to 7:00AM) by calling us and leaving a voicemail message. Please provide the following information in your message:

- The child's first and last name
- Your name (first and last) and relation to child
- Type of absence (i.e.: sick, appointment, other reason)
- Date of absence and duration of absence (e.g.: full day, half day)
- Expected date of return to regularly scheduled sessions.

For extended absences, First Bridge Centre may request a doctor's note to resume therapy.

Appendix 1

First Bridge Centre – Sickness traffic light	
<p style="text-align: center;">Amber – Join us if parents can collect within an hour of being contacted</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal green/yellow runny nose. • Lethargy. • Redness or runny eyes
<p style="text-align: center;">Green – OK to come in</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear runny nose. • Active, playful and rested.
<p style="text-align: center;">Red – No session today</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any illness or infection within an exclusion period as specified by Public Health England. • Fever of 37.8 degrees or higher. • Wheezing or shortness of breath. • Continuous cough. • Constant runny nose with yellow/green tint. • Diarrhoea or vomiting within the last 48 hours. • Sore throat or swollen glands. • Undiagnosed rash. • Persistent itching. • Uncovered sores. • Cannot join in daily routine. • Unable to take part in normal nursery activities inside and outside