



## Aclet Close Nursery School

### Illness Policy Explanation

Dear Parents / Carers,

#### Why it is important to keep your child off school when ill

At Aclet Close Nursery School, where most of the staff are parents ourselves, we understand that taking the decision to keep your child off school is a hard one. Apart from childcare, there is the difficulty that children often want to come, even though they are not too well. It is particularly difficult when there is an event coming up that you and they have been looking forward to.

There are very good reasons why children need to be kept off Nursery.

#### 1. Infection Control

Small children, despite our close care, do not always have the highest hygiene standards. Hands are not always washed as carefully as possible, and some children are fairly new to the concept of toilets; consequently gastro-intestinal problems will spread rapidly. Children are also naturally very 'touchy-feely' at this age – they hug, they cuddle, they touch and they share – everything. The only sure way of reducing this is to say that if a child has had either sickness or diarrhoea (loose bowel movement) then they **MUST** stay away from school for at least 48 after the last episode of sickness and diarrhoea. Obviously this applies to our staff too.

#### 2. Viruses

The same applies to some viruses – for some children these can be a nuisance – for others the consequences can be more severe. We follow the 'Public Health England Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and other childcare settings' and are happy to advise parents/carers as to when a child should return to Nursery.

#### 3. Medicines and Antibiotics

With your written permission, we are able to administer medicines/antibiotics if your child is well enough in themselves to attend school. Please call at the office to complete the relevant paperwork. \*Please note that medications must be prescribed for 4 times daily.

**Date Policy written: September 2019**

**Date Policy reviewed: September 2020/September 2021/ September 2022/December 2023**

**Date of next review: December 2024**