

Badger Club Policy 05 - Infectious and Communicable Diseases

At The Club we will promote the good health of the children that we look after. We will deal promptly and effectively with any illnesses, accidents or injuries that occur while children are in our care. We take all practical steps to keep staff and children safe by taking appropriate action if children are ill or infectious. This keeps children and staff safe from communicable diseases.

The Club cannot accept children who are ill or infectious. If any children are ill when they first arrive at the Club we will immediately notify their parents or carers to come and collect them. Any children who have been ill or infectious should not return to the Club until they have fully recovered, or until after the minimum exclusion period has expired (see table at the end of this policy).

In accordance with the procedures set out in the Health, Illness and Emergency policy, parents/carers will be notified immediately if their child has become ill and needs to go home. Poorly children will be comforted, kept safe and under close supervision until they are collected.

If a child has had to go home prematurely due to illness, they should remain at home until they are better for at least 24 hours, or according to the times set out in the table below. If a member of staff becomes ill at work, similar restrictions on their return will apply.

If a child or member of staff becomes ill outside Club hours, they should notify the Club as soon as possible. The minimum exclusion periods outlined in the table below will then come into operation.

Infection Control

Hand hygiene is one of the most important ways of controlling the spread of infections, especially those that children are especially susceptible to. We will ensure access to soap, warm water and paper towels are available at all times. In the case where this is not possible, alcohol hand gel can be used on hands that are not visibly dirty.

All children will be reminded to clean their hands after using the toilet, before eating and handling food and at other times necessary (such as messy activities or if animals are present).

Our setting is cleaned regularly and to a set schedule. We will take advice of the UKHSA health protection team should any outbreak of infection at our setting be noted.

Communicable diseases and conditions

If a case of head lice is found at the Club, the child's parents or carers will be discreetly informed when they collect the child. The child concerned will not be isolated from other children, and there is no need for them to be excluded from activities or sessions at the Club. Other parents will be warned to check their own children for head lice, but care will

be taken not to identify the child affected.

If an infectious or communicable disease is detected on the Club's premises, we will inform parents and carers as soon as possible.

If there is an incident of food poisoning affecting two or more children looked after at the Club the Manager will inform Ofsted as soon as possible and within 14 days at the latest.

If there is an outbreak of a notifiable disease at the Club, we will inform the local health protection unit, HSE under RIDDOR (if appropriate), and Ofsted.

Minimum Exclusion Periods for Illness and Disease

Disease/Condition	Exclusion Period
Chicken Pox	At least 5 days from onset of rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Cold Sores	None. Avoid contact with sores.
Conjunctivitis	None
Covid-19 and other respiratory infections	Should not attend if displaying a high temperature and are unwell. Individuals who have a positive test result for COVID-19 should not attend the setting for 3 days after the day of the test.
Diahorrea and Vomiting	Individuals can return 48 hours after diarrhoea and vomiting have stopped.
Diphtheria*	Exclusion always essential. Consult local Health Protection Team.
Flu (influenza) or similar	Until recovered.
Glandular fever	None
Gastro-enteritis, E.coli, Food Poisoning, Salmonella and Dysentery	48 hours after last episode of diarrhoea
Hand, Foot and Mouth	None
Headlice	None
Hepatitis A*	Until 7 days after onset of jaundice (or 7 days after symptom onset if no jaundice)
Hepatitis B* and C*	None

High Temperature	24hrs
HIV	None
Impertigo	Until lesions are crusted and healed, or 48hrs after starting antibiotic treatment.
Measles*	4 days from onset of rash and well enough
Meningitis*	Until recovered
Mumps*	5 days from onset of swollen glands
Pertussis* (Whooping Cough)	2 days from starting antibiotic treatment, or 14 days from onset of coughing if no antibiotics and feel well enough to return.
Ringworm	Exclusion not usually required
Rubella*	5 days from onset of rash
Scabies	Until first treatment has been given
Scarlet Fever*	24hrs after starting antibiotic treatment
Slapped cheek, Fifth Disease/Parvovirus	None (once rash has developed)
Threadworms	None
Tonsilitis	None
Tuberculosis*	Consult local Health Protection Team
Typhoid*, Paratyphoid*	48hrs after last episode of diarrhoea
Warts (including Verucca)	None. Verruca suffers should keep feet covered.

* Denotes a notifiable disease.

This list is not necessarily exhaustive, and staff are encouraged to contact local health services if they are in any doubt.

Pandemic flu

In the event of a global pandemic, we will follow government and NHS guidelines.

Closure

There are two types of closures this policy covers:

1. There may be some occasions when we will have to consider temporarily closing the Club because we have too few unaffected staff to run sessions safely. If this occurs the manager will contact OCC for further support and guidance.

In the event of closure, the manager will notify parents or carers as soon as possible. The manager will also notify Ofsted of the closure. In the event of the Club deciding to close temporarily, fees will not be charged for the short-notice closure period.

For avoidance of doubt: for closure days due to the school deciding to close (i.e. snow days and equipment failure like heating) the Club will not charge fees thus issuing a credit to payments already made.

2. In the event of a forced closure due to the decision taken by the Government, the club will not be able to operate as the school will be closed for an extended period.

In this event, fees will still apply as the Club's staff would be available to work. Parents will be expected to pay the fees as the Club will still have to pay staff salaries.

After two weeks of forced closure (10 working days), this policy will be reviewed by the Management Committee and parents will be notified of any changes.

The Club will also have to close if advised to do so by the local authority in the interest of safeguarding the children in our care.

This policy was adopted by: Long Furlong Badger Club

Date: 11/11/2025

To be reviewed: October 2028

Signed: Lucy Harvey / Chair and Trustee