



The Magic Roundabout Childcare Centre



MEDICATION POLICY

Antibiotics

Staff at the Magic Roundabout can no longer administer antibiotics to children while they are in the Centre for illnesses such as ear, nose throat infections, chest infections, coughs, roseola, kidney / urinary infections and common childhood illnesses such as measles, mumps chicken pox. Children should remain away from the centre until the course is complete or until they are well enough to return. It will be the responsibility of the parent to administer the remaining medication during your child's session.

Ibuprofen & Paracetamol & other medications

The Centre can no longer keep antihistamine's, Calpol or Nurofen or any other form of premedication on the premises

Reason for this: This is in line with Care Inspectorate's "Management of medication in day care" document. – Quoted "Childcare service providers should not purchase and keep stocks of medicines for communal use just in case a child displays symptoms of a minor ailment or allergy. Such medicines would include paracetamol, ibuprofen and chlorphenamine".

Medicine we can administer:

We can however administer medication for the following emergency conditions:

- Asthma,
- Allergy & anaphylactic reactions
- Fits / Seizures

Parents will be asked to provide the medicine and a protocol will be put in place for these conditions

- Parents will be asked to provide the medicine in a box labelled with the child's name
- Staff will obtain time-limited consent for its use, administer the medicine as directed and keep appropriate records as they would with any other medicine. (see storage policy, record keeping & staff administering medicine for more info)

Fever Management Policy

A fever is a high temperature. As a general rule, in children, a temperature of over 37.5°C is a fever.

We can no longer administer Calpol or Ibuprofen for high temperature for the following reason:

If the child seems to be well, other than having a high temperature - for example, if they are playing and attentive it is less likely that they are seriously ill, Antipyretic (temperature reducing - like paracetamol or ibuprofen) agents should not routinely be used with the sole aim of reducing body temperature in children with a fever who are otherwise well. Guidelines,

Urgent medical advice WILL be sought if the child is:

- under three months of age and has a temperature of 38°C or above
- between three and six months of age and has a temperature of 39°C or above
- over six months and shows other signs of being unwell - for example, they are floppy and drowsy or you are concerned about them.

If the above occurs our policy is to

- 1. contact the parent's**
- 2. contact emergency contacts**
- 3. take the child to A&E**

Febrile seizures (fits) can occur in children when they have a fever (a temperature of 38°C/101°F or above) that occurs as a result of an infection or inflammation.

These normally occur in children aged between six months and five years, with in most cases happen between six months and three years. Although not a common condition, febrile seizures are not particularly rare either. It is estimated that 2-5% of all children will have a least one febrile seizure. Febrile seizures can be very frightening for parents, but they look much worse than they actually are. They cause no serious damage to the child, and the risks of long-term complications are extremely low. In the UK, there have never been any deaths due to febrile seizures.

Most fevers are caused by infections or other illnesses. A fever helps the body to fight infections by stimulating the immune system (the body's natural defence against infection

and illness). By increasing the body's temperature, a fever makes it more difficult for the bacteria and viruses that cause infections to survive.

Traditional conditions that can cause fevers include:

- flu
- ear infections
- roseola (a virus that causes a temperature and rash)
- tonsillitis
- kidney or urinary infections
- common childhood illnesses, such as measles, mumps, chickenpox and whooping cough

A child's temperature can also be raised during teething (when the teeth start to develop), following vaccinations or if they overheat due to too much bedding or clothing.

- If a child has a fever, it's important to keep them well hydrated by giving them plenty of cool water to drink.
- Even if the child isn't thirsty, try to get them to drink little and often to keep their fluid levels up.

To help reduce the child's temperature you can also:

- keep them cool - by undressing them to their underwear (you can cover them with a cool, lightweight sheet)
- keep them in a cool room - 18°C (65°F) is about right (open a window if needed).

Any changes or exceptions to this policy are at the discretion of the management.