PROCEDURES REGARDING HIGH TEMPERATURES

If a child has a high temperature the following procedure will need to be implemented:-

1. Stay with the child and remove excessive clothing. Whilst removing the child’s clothes ask another member of staff to get the thermometer and to inform a senior manager of the child’s condition, in order for the senior manager to check the child’s condition in person.
2. As you remove the child’s clothes look for any rashes on the skin which if present, you would need to inform a senior member of staff immediately.
3. Ensure the room is not too hot or cold to avoid increasing the child’s temperature i.e. air con on setting 18 would make the room too cold for a child wearing little clothing indicating, their body would automatically make heat to keep them warm which would make the temperature go higher.
4. Offer the child a drink (keep offering the drink to the child every so often, even if the child only has little sips of water, as it will keep them hydrated).
5. Note the time the temperature was noticed and the child’s temperature reading onto a Temperature Record Form. To take the temperature of a child, use either the ear or forehead thermometer (NEVER USE your hand)
6. If using the ear thermometer ensure you put a new plastic covering on the part of the thermometer that is inserted into the ear.
7. If using a forehead thermometer ensure the forehead is dry before using this, otherwise it will affect the temperature reading. .
8. If a child is happy to lie on a bed then place them on one as this will help bring their temperature down, as body contact with another person causes body heat. (Remain next to the child as they will need one to one attention until the temperature drops to a safer level i.e. 36/37).
9. If the child is very unsettled and begins to cry when you try to lie them on a bed move them back onto your lap as crying and getting upset will also raise the child’s temperature.
10. Take the child’s temperature every 10 minutes in order to monitor their condition. If after half an hour we are unable to lower the child’s temperature we would need to contact the parents/guardians to collect their child. We would advise the parent/guardian to bring calpol so they can administrate it to their child on arrival in order to bring the temperature down.
11. We would also advise the parent/guardian to take the child to the Doctors to get the child checked over.
12. If the child’s temperature becomes higher than 40 – 41 or 104 – 105F we would need to contact emergency services and if not already done so contact the parents/guardians. A member of staff would accompany the child in the ambulance and wait with the child in the hospital until their parents/guardians arrived. Take the child’s information form and the temperature record form for the ambulance crew.

Reviewed: 09/08/24 Next Review Date: July 2025