Illness and Exclusion Policy

A child or adult should not attend The Woodland Works if they:

- Have a high temperature (fever)
- Have vomited or had diarrhoea within the last 48 hours
- Have symptoms of a contagious illness that could spread to others
- Are too unwell to participate comfortably and benefit from attending
- Have been diagnosed with an illness listed in the government exclusion guidance (see below)

As a general principle, if a child or adult isn't well enough to be at The Woodland Works, whether because of their own comfort or the risk to others, they shouldn't attend.

We have both the right and the responsibility to enforce this.

If anyone attending The Woodland Works begins to show any of the above symptoms, they will be asked to go home and follow the guidelines above before returning. In the case of children attending alone, their parent / carer will be contacted to collect them as soon as possible.

If Staff are unable to attend due to illness, the session may need to be cancelled. (See cancellation policy)

Exclusion periods for common illnesses

The government's exclusion table for children in childcare settings is the definitive reference for how long children should stay away after specific illnesses. This should be referred to for any illness not covered here:

UK Government: Health protection in schools and other childcare facilities (exclusion table). Below are the most common scenarios encountered.

Quick reference: common exclusion periods

Illness	Exclusion period
Vomiting and/or diarrhoea	48 hours from last episode
High temperature (fever)	Until fever-free for 24 hours without medication
Chickenpox	Until all spots have crusted over (around 5 days)
Impetigo	Until sores crusted/healed, or 48 hours after antibiotics start
Scarlet fever	24 hours after starting antibiotics
Conjunctivitis (alone)	No mandatory exclusion. Use professional judgement.