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Guidance

Childcare: reporting children's accidents and injuries

Find out whether you need to tell Ofsted about an accident, injury or illness a child suffers while in your care.

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As an Ofsted-registered childminder, nanny or daycare, you

must [report all serious childcare incidents](#) that occur to children while they are in your care. This includes all serious accidents, injuries and illnesses.

You don't need to report a minor accident, injury or illness suffered by a child in your care.

Serious injuries, accidents and illnesses

You must tell Ofsted about any of the following:

- anything that requires resuscitation
- admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours
- a broken bone or fracture
- dislocation of any major joint, such as the shoulder, knee, hip or elbow
- any loss of consciousness
- severe breathing difficulties, including asphyxia
- anything leading to hypothermia or heat-induced illness

Minor injuries

You do not need to tell Ofsted about minor injuries, even if treated at a hospital (for less than 24 hours). These include:

- animal and insect bites, such as a bee sting that doesn't cause an allergic reaction
- sprains, strains and bruising, for example if a child sprains their wrist tripping over their shoelaces
- cuts and grazes
- minor burns and scalds
- dislocation of minor joints, such as a finger or toe
- wound infections

Eyes

You must report to Ofsted if a child suffers any loss of sight, whether it is temporary or permanent. You must also tell us about any:

- penetrating injury to the child's eye
- chemical or hot metal burn to the child's eye

Substances and electricity

If a child in your care suffers any injury from, or requires medical treatment for, any of the following situations you must tell Ofsted:

- from absorption of any substance:
 - by inhalation
 - by ingestion
 - through the skin
- from an electric shock or electrical burn
- where there is reason to believe it resulted from exposure to:
 - a harmful substance
 - a biological agent
 - a toxin
 - an infected material

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