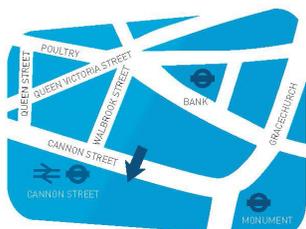


Established in 1979, Crone Corkill is a market leader in Business Support recruitment. We have a successful history of providing services and market knowledge to clients and candidates, helping to develop careers and ensure organisations always have the support they need to thrive.

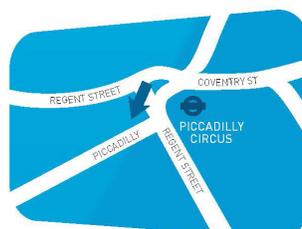
---

## Specialists in Executive Assistant and Business Support recruitment



### London City & Docklands

80 Cannon Street  
London  
EC4N 6HL  
T. 020 7390 7000



### London West End

25 Sackville Street  
London  
W1S 3AX  
T. 020 7636 0800

# When is it ever the right time for your child to be sick?



**Jenine Ward**  
Director  
Crone Corkill

Jenine has over 16 years' recruitment experience, 12 years' working for Crone Corkill.

She joined the business as a permanent consultant within the Legal team in October 2002 and quickly became one of the companies highest billers and has been promoted several times during her time within the company.

After returning from maternity leave in March 2014 Jenine took on the role of overall Director for the Crone Corkill brand.

One of the biggest dilemmas for a working Mum is deciding when you should stay at home if your child is under the weather. I remember feeling really guilty one night when I put my daughter to bed and noticed her cheeks were red. I was thinking "Please don't be sick tomorrow, as I have a really important meeting with my boss".

Let me begin by saying that family comes first. However, when you commit to returning back to work after maternity leave, there has to be an element of responsibility to your boss, company and colleagues, to be in the office.

My first couple of months back from maternity leave were extremely traumatising as most mornings I would leave my daughter crying. The guilt would set in before I had even made it to the underground and my first call would be to the nursery to check if she was ok, so I could relax and get on with my day.

For some reason mornings weren't her thing. I remember watching those adverts with smiling toddlers in their cots and thinking "Why isn't my child like that in the morning?!". It's really difficult to differentiate whether she is just upset or is unwell. As time went on, I realised it was just her age and lack of awareness and subsequently breakfast became more of a happy time, especially if she had a good night of sleep.

So, back to the question, when is it ever the right time for your child to be sick?

Nurseries are a breeding ground for germs. There is always at least one child with

a runny nose so it's virtually impossible to prevent your child from having a cold. If my daughter has a cold but no temperature, then she is wrapped up warm and sent off to the nursery. Teething is a horrible time but sadly part and parcel of development. Fortunately there are some great soothers on the market that can help, but nothing is more effect than a cuddle!

The four big triggers for me when deciding on whether my child is sick are, a high/low temperature, a rash, vomiting and if she is 'off' her food.

The answer from my perspective is that it's never a good time for your child to be sick and it is guaranteed that they will be sick at the most inconvenient of times but that's motherhood and we just have to get on with it. And would we change it? Of course not!

Hopefully like me you have an understanding boss and therefore can be guilt free to stay at home and be Mummy at the times when your child needs it the most.