



Early Years Illness Policy and Procedure.

It is our intention in Early Years to protect the health and wellbeing of all the children and the staff of the school by excluding any child, or member of staff, who is ill or infectious.

If a child becomes ill at school, we aim to make them as comfortable as possible until their parents or an authorised adult can collect them. We strongly believe that if a child is unwell, there is no place better for them than at home

It is at the Head of Early Years discretion whether or not to allow a child stay in school if they are showing signs of illness, even if there is no exclusion period or if this is after any exclusion period has passed or if a doctor has stated that they are not infectious. The Head of Early Years will need to take into account the demeanour of the child and whether they are well enough to participate in school activities.

If we allow a child showing signs of illness or who has recently recovered from an illness into school, then we will monitor them regularly and we will contact parent/carers to ask that they are collected if they become unwell again.

If a child becomes ill while they are at school, then we will contact parents to come and collect their child from school. If we cannot contact parents, then we will try the emergency contacts.

If we feel that a child is seriously ill at any time, then we will send to a medical centre immediately.

If a child is prescribed antibiotics, then the first 3 doses must be given at home before the child returns to school.

Temporary Exclusion is recommended when:

- The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in activities as determined by staff.
- The ill child requires more care than the staff can give, which may result in compromising care for other children.

If the child has any of the following conditions, unless a health professional determines the child's condition does not require exclusion:

- **Appears to be severely ill**
- **Fever**
- **Axillary temperature of 38oC or higher.**

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To be reviewed-January 2020

- **Diarrhoea**: defined by more watery stools - decreased form of stool that is not associated with changes in diet, and increased frequency of passing stool that is not contained in diaper or use of toilet. Children may return after 24 hrs once the reason for change in bowel has been resolved and if the change is not due to Salmonella, Shigelloses or E. coli infections.
- **Vomiting**: Exclude if child has vomited two or more times in the previous 24 hours unless the vomiting is determined to be due to a non-infectious condition and the child is not in danger of dehydration. Children may return after 24 hours of the last time they vomited.
- **Abdominal pain** (persistent): that pain continues for more than 2 hours or intermittent pain associated with fever or other signs or symptoms.
- **Conjunctivitis** (Pink Eye): A child should be excluded only for bacterial conjunctivitis (red eyes, green or yellow discharge). They may return after 24 hours after the treatment has started Other forms do not need to be excluded (allergy or viral cause).
- **Hepatitis A**: Exclude until 1 week after onset of viral illness or until after immune serum globulin has been given to children and staff in the program, as directed by the local health department.
- **Impetigo**: Exclude until 24 hours after treatment has begun.
- **Measles**: Exclude until 5th day after rash disappears or local health department states patient is non-infectious.
- **Mouth sores**: Exclude if mouth sores are coupled with drooling or child is not able to participate.
- **Mumps**: Exclude until 5 days after onset of parotid gland swelling.
- **Pediculosis** (Head Lice): Please see the Schools headlice policy
- **Pertussis**: (Whooping Cough) Children should be excluded until five days of appropriate antibiotic has been completed or until local health department states patient is non-infectious.
- **Rash**: with fever and/or behaviour change.
- **Scabies**: Children should be excluded until after treatment is begun.
- **Streptococcal pharyngitis** (Strep Throat), excluded until 24 hours after treatment has been begun and child is able to participate.
- **Tuberculosis**: Tuberculosis (TB) Exclude until the child's physician or local health department authority states the child is non-infectious.
- **Varicella-zoster** (Chicken pox): Exclude until all the lesions have dried and formed scabs, usually within six days of onset of rash.
- **Hand, foot and mouth disease** is a non-itchy rash that develops on the palms of your hands and soles of your feet. It can also cause ulcers in your mouth and make you feel generally unwell, although some people have no symptoms. The incubation period is 3-6 days, usually with full resolution of skin and mouth lesions within 7-10 days.