



SICKNESS POLICY

We recognise our responsibility to promote a learning environment that is safe and healthy for all. In order to maintain a clean and healthy environment this policy provides guidance for staff and parents as to when students should or should not be in school if showing signs of sickness. The health and well-being of all students is of paramount importance to enable them to be successful learners in everything they do.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- To ensure that sick children are appropriately and correctly identified.
- To ensure sick children are cared for appropriately.
- To protect children and adults from preventable infection.
- To enable staff and parents to be clear about the requirements and procedures when children are unwell.

The school has not got any facilities to look after students who are sick.

It is the responsibility of the parent / carer to collect their student promptly, if they are unwell during the school day. Parents are asked to ensure the school has a contact number where they can be reached in emergencies.

Students should not be brought to school if they are displaying signs of illness. If students do come into school and staff feel that they are unfit for school, parents/carers/emergency contacts will be contacted and requested to come and collect their child and requested not to return their child to school until symptom free.

If a student is thought to be unwell while at school they will be seen by the school nurse, nursing assistant or in their absence by a member of SLT, as the condition of the child needs to be assessed. This will be done in a kind and caring manner. The child may be distressed, so it is important to be calm and reassuring. The Head of School will be informed of any sick students.

Reasons students will be asked to be collected from school due to illness/medical condition or why students should be kept at home:

- Following a hospital admission for surgery or illness, please check with the therapy / Medical team for advice, as some operations will need longer recovery periods than others.
- If a student has a temperature of 38° C and above.
- A student who is needing regular paracetamol throughout the day should be kept at home until well.

- Coughs and colds do not normally require the student to be absent from school but this depends on the severity and how the student is able to cope with the school routine. Students who have colds which are obviously 'streaming' and they look unwell and are unable to participate in lessons.
- Students who have diarrhoea and vomiting. Parents must keep their child home for 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea and can only return to school providing they are well enough. Students will not be able to swim for the 2 weeks following this episode. We understand that some children/young people may take medication for constipation. Please ensure that staff are made aware if this is the case. If your child/young person requires medication as part of a disimpaction plan, this should be carried out at home.
- During the first 48 hours of antibiotic treatment. A form will be sent home for parents to sign before antibiotics can be given in school and will only be given if stated 4 times a day.
- If a student has an infection which can spread easily – refer to following: [Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/health-protection-in-children-and-young-people-settings-including-education) Students with infectious or contagious diseases will not be permitted to attend for certain periods(see appendix) If staff suspect that a student has an infectious or contagious disease they will request that parents/carers consult a doctor before returning their child to school and the school may seek advice from the Health Protection Agency
- Post op anaesthetic or sedation e.g. dental extraction, day case; your child needs to stay at home for 24 hours.
- If a student's asthma is flaring up and they are not responding to their inhalers.
- Following a seizure when rescue medicine has been given or it is known that a prolonged recovery period will be needed – If pupils are going to be unable to access education following a seizure and recovery they will need to be collected.

We understand the needs of working parents and do not aim to exclude students from school unnecessarily. In the event of a student having a condition where some of the above might be considered 'routine' or a side effect of their condition an agreement will be put in place in consultation with medical professionals to allow a pupil to remain in school when they would otherwise be collected.

The final decision on whether a pupil may remain at school rests with the Head of School/College who will consider not only the impact on the individual student but also on the welfare and education of other students.

Any medicines given in school, including paracetamol and ibuprofen will be given in accordance with the schools supporting students with medical conditions policy.