

Guidance on Specific Infectious Diseases

As you are all aware, children pick up common illnesses and diseases throughout their school careers. Whilst sometimes this is distressing, it is an inevitable part of growing up.

Diseases that DO need time away from school:	
Chicken Pox	"Children should be kept away from school for at least 5 days from onset of rash and all lesions are crusted over."
Any diarrhoea and vomiting, including food poisoning	"Children should be kept away from school until 48 hours after the symptoms have stopped and are well enough to return." "Cases should be excluded from swimming for 2 weeks following last episode of diarrhoea."
Impetigo	"Children should be kept away from school until the lesions are crusted and healed, or 48 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment."
Influenza ('flu')	"There is no precise period to be kept away from school. Children with symptoms of influenza are advised to remain at home until recovered."
Measles	"Cases are infectious from 4 days before onset of rash to 4 days after so it is important to ensure children are kept away from school during this period."
Mumps	"Infected children can return to school 5 days after the onset of swelling, if well."
Rubella (German Measles)	"Keep children away from school for 5 days from the appearance of the rash."
Scabies	"The infected child should be excluded until after the first treatment has been carried out."
Scarlet Fever	"Children can return to school 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment."
Whooping cough	"A child or staff member should not return to school until they have had 48 hours of appropriate treatment with antibiotics."
Diseases that DO NOT require time away from school if the child is feeling well:	
Athletes foot; Cold sores; Conjunctivitis; Glandular fever; Hand, foot and mouth; Headlice; Ringworm; Slapped cheek; Threadworm.	

**Note: This is not an exhaustive list – it is a list of the most common diseases affecting primary school children. For more unusual illnesses, further advice will be required.*

If we are notified of any of these diseases, we will send a message home via text and class dojo to inform families of children in that class. We cannot give specific details or any information about the child affected; we treat all health information with the highest level of confidentiality. If we suspect a child has any of these diseases listed above, we will let their family know in a sensitive manner to enable appropriate treatment to begin quickly.

Families can support us in letting us know if their child has any of these diseases, and preventing the spread of cases by following the advice given. We are unable to offer health advice as we are not medical professionals, but refer people to the NHS Choices website, which contains up-to-date information on symptoms and action to be taken.

www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Pages/hub.aspx