



Infection Control in Schools Policy 2020 - 2023

Adopted by
Highfields Academy on

Approved by:

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Last reviewed on:

n/a

Next review due by:

November 2023

In order to prevent the spread of infections in school we follow the guidelines set by the Health Protection Agency, regarding the recommended period of time that pupils should be absent from school.

Detailed information about many conditions is available at Public Health Agency <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/guidance-infection-control-schools-and-other-childcare-settings-0>

A summary of the most common conditions and recommended periods of absence are shown below.

It is important to note that the school are unable to authorise absence on medical grounds or illness for conditions where the guidelines state that no period of absence is recommended, eg: headlice.

DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING ILLNESS:

Illness / condition	Recommended period of absence
Diarrhoea and vomiting	48 hours from the last episode
E Coli 1571	Exclusion and school to consult with HPA
Typhoid and paratyphoid (Enteric fever)	Exclusion and school to consult with HPA
Shigella (Dysentery)	Exclusion and school to consult with HPA

RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS: RASHES AND SKIN INFECTIONS:

Illness / condition	Recommended period of absence
Influenza	Until recovered
Tuberculosis	Exclusion and school to consult with HPA
Whooping cough	5 days from commencing anti-biotics or 21 days from onset of illness if no anti-biotic treatment has been prescribed. In the latter situation we will require a doctor's note

Illness / condition	Recommended period of absence
Athlete's foot	none
Chicken Pox	5 days from onset of rash
Cold sores (Herpes)	None
German measles (Rubella)	5 days from onset of rash
Hand, Foot and Mouth	None
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted or healed
Measles	5 days from onset of rash
Molluscum Contagiosum	None
Ringworm	Until treatment is commenced
Roseola (infantum)	None
Scabies	Pupil can return after the first treatment
Scarlet fever	5 days after commencing anti-biotics
Slapped cheek	None
Warts and Verrucae	None
Shingles	Exclude only if the rash is weeping and cannot be covered.

OTHER INFECTIONS:

Illness / condition	Recommended period of absence
Conjunctivitis	None
Diphtheria	Exclusion essential and school to consult with HPA
Glandular Fever	None
Headlice	None
Hepatitis A	Exclusion and school to consult with HPA
Hepatitis B or C	None
HIV / AIDS	None
Meningococcal meningitis / septicaemia	Until recovered
Bacterial Meningitis	Until recovered
Viral Meningitis	None
MRSA	None
Mumps	5 days from the onset of swollen glands
Threadworms	None
Tonsillitis	None