



Illness or Infection Policy and Procedure

EYFS Requirement

This policy has been written in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage Safeguarding and Welfare requirements

Related Policies

Safe Guarding & Child Protection Policy
Equal Opportunities Policy
Inclusion Policy

Legislation

Working Together to Safeguard Children
Children Act 1989
Children Act 2004 (Every Child Matters) Children Act 2006
Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and Other Childcare Settings

The purpose of this document is to help us ensure a safe and healthy environment for all children within our care at West Park Academy. To reduce the risk of infections:

- We provide protective clothing and equipment for staff in accordance with academy procedures.
- Outside contract cleaners clean premises daily with routine sterilising processes in place.
- If an outbreak occurs a deep clean is completed in the appropriate area by contract cleaners.

It is a fact that children will get ill. By following the guidelines in this policy it reduces unnecessary exposure to illnesses and ensures infections are managed effectively creating a happy and healthy school and Nursery for all.

If at any time there are any infectious diseases present in school, a notice will be clearly displayed at the entrance and/or a text/letter sent out to parents.

What happens if my child is ill at home?

If your child becomes ill at home, they should not return to school/Nursery until they are over any symptoms in accordance with the guidelines shown in this policy and are well enough to do so.

Depending upon the symptoms, you may have to consider excluding your child from school/Nursery in accordance with our guidelines in this document.

If your child is well enough to return to school, we do require you to notify us of any illness that has occurred. This ensures that school staff can monitor your child for any signs of reoccurrence or for unusual behavior. In extreme cases, this will also ensure any symptoms of infectious diseases are picked up early and managed effectively.

What happens if my child is ill at school/Nursery?

We will try to keep your child as comfortable as possible. A decision will be made, based on symptoms including visible signs and the child's temperature, whether to contact you immediately or whether to keep monitoring your child.

If your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea or a very high temperature, you will be contacted immediately.

Key Guidelines for Exclusion

Based upon Public Health England guidance, we adhere to the following exclusion periods depending upon the symptoms and illness.

No Exclusion

- Head lice
- Conjunctivitis
- Tonsillitis
- Roseola
- Slapped Cheek
- Threadworms
- Hand foot and mouth

48 Hour Exclusion

- Vomiting (48 hours after last bout of vomiting)
- Diarrhoea (48 hours after last bout of diarrhoea)
- Impetigo- until lesions are crusted and healed or 48 hours after antibiotic treatment

4 Days from Symptoms

- German Measles*
- Measles*
- Chicken Pox – until vesicles have crusted over

5 Days from Symptoms

- Whooping Cough*- 5 days from commencing antibiotics
- Mumps*- 5 days after onset of swelling

Other

- Scarlet Fever*- Can return 24 hours after commencing antibiotics
- Scabies- After first treatment
- Ringworm- Exclusion not normally required

There is a list of notifiable diseases shown with an * In these cases, we work closely with parents, PHE and Ofsted to ensure we follow any additional advice that may be given.

If there is an outbreak of an infectious disease and or following advice provided by Public Health England, we may increase the exclusion periods in order to manage the infection and reduce further transmission.

Information for Pregnant Mothers

There are a number of infections that can be harmful to the unborn baby. These include:

- Chicken Pox
- German Measles*
- Slapped Cheek
- Measles*

If you or your child has been in school/Nursery when one of the above infections have been present, we advise you to seek advice from your GP/Midwife

We are happy to administer any medication to your child providing it is prescribed for them and the relevant form has been completed in the Main Office in school.

How You Can Help

You can help support infection control by following the guidance in this policy and encouraging good personal hygiene:

- Regular handwashing with soap
- Covering your mouth when coughing and sneezing and using a tissue where possible.

For More Information contact www.publichealth.hscni.net or www.gov.uk/government/organisations/Public-health-england or www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

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