



PLYMSTOCK SCHOOL

Health and Safety Policy

Lead Officer: Headteacher

Date for Review: Autumn 2019

1. Aims

Our school aims to:

- Provide and maintain a safe and healthy environment
- Establish and maintain safe working procedures amongst staff, pupils and all visitors to the school site
- Have robust procedures in place in case of emergencies
- Ensure that the premises and equipment are maintained safely, and are regularly inspected

2. Legislation

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education on health and safety in schools and the following legislation:

- The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, which sets out the general duties employers have towards employees and duties relating to lettings
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992, which require employers to make an assessment of the risks to the health and safety of their employees
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, which require employers to carry out risk assessments, make arrangements to implement necessary measures, and arrange for appropriate information and training
- The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002, which require employers to control substances that are hazardous to health
- The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) 2013, which state that some accidents must be reported to the Health and Safety Executive and set out the timeframe for this and how long records of such accidents must be kept

- The Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992, which require employers to carry out digital screen equipment assessments and states users' entitlement to an eyesight test
- The Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998, which require work on gas fittings to be carried out by someone on the Gas Safe Register
- The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, which requires employers to take general fire precautions to ensure the safety of their staff
- The Work at Height Regulations 2005, which requires employers to protect their staff from falls from height

The school follows national guidance published by Public Health England when responding to infection control issues.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 The Trust Board

The **Westcountry Schools Trust (WeST) Board** has **ultimate responsibility for health and safety** matters in the school but will delegate day-to-day responsibility to the **Headteacher and Local Governing Body**.

The WeST Trust Board has a duty to take reasonable steps to ensure that staff and pupils are not exposed to risks to their health and safety. This applies to activities on or off the school premises.

The WeST Trust Board as the employer, also has a duty to:

- Assess the risks to staff and others affected by school activities in order to identify and introduce the health and safety measures necessary to manage those risks.
- Inform employees about risks and the measures in place to manage them.
- Ensure that adequate health and safety training is provided.

The Local Governing Body representative who oversees health and safety is **Andy Edwards**.

3.2 Headteacher

The Headteacher is responsible for health and safety day-to-day. This involves:

- Implementing the health and safety policy
- Ensuring there is enough staff to safely supervise pupils
- Ensuring that the school building and premises are safe and regularly inspected
- Providing adequate training for school staff
- Reporting to the governing board on health and safety matters
- Ensuring appropriate evacuation procedures are in place and regular fire drills are held
- Ensuring that in their absence, health and safety responsibilities are delegated to another member of staff
- Ensuring all risk assessments are completed and reviewed

- Monitoring cleaning contracts, and ensuring cleaners are appropriately trained and have access to personal protective equipment, where necessary

In the Headteacher's absence, the Business Manager assumes the above day-to-day health and safety responsibilities.

3.3 Health and safety lead

The nominated health and safety lead is the Premises Manager.

3.4 Staff

School staff have a duty to take care of pupils in the same way that a prudent parent would do so. Staff will:

- Take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by what they do at work
- Co-operate with the school on health and safety matters
- Work in accordance with training and instructions
- Inform the appropriate person of any work situation representing a serious and immediate danger so that remedial action can be taken
- Model safe and hygienic practice for pupils
- Understand emergency evacuation procedures and feel confident in implementing them

3.5 Pupils and parents

- Pupils and parents are responsible for following the school's health and safety advice, on-site and off-site, and for reporting any health and safety incidents to a member of staff.

3.6 Contractors

- Contractors will agree health and safety practices with the Business Manager and Premises Manager before starting work.
- Before work begins the contractor will provide evidence that they have completed an adequate risk assessment of all their planned work.

4. Site security

- The Premises Manager and caretakers are responsible for the security of the school site in and out of school hours. They are responsible for visual inspections of the site, and for the intruder and fire alarm systems.
- The Premises Manager and caretakers are key holders for the school. Additional key holders are the Headteacher and Business Manager.

5. Fire

- Emergency exits, assembly points and assembly point instructions are clearly identified by safety signs and notices. Fire risk assessment of the premises will be reviewed regularly.

- Emergency evacuations are practised at least once a term.
- The fire alarm is a loud siren/bell
- Fire alarm testing will take place every Friday at 11:00am.
- New staff will be trained in fire safety and all staff and pupils will be made aware of any new fire risks.
- All staff will receive annual fire safety training each September.
- Expectations for all staff are outlined in Appendix 1.

In the event of a fire:

- The alarm will be raised immediately by whoever discovers the fire and emergency services contacted. Evacuation procedures will also begin immediately
- Fire extinguishers may be used by staff only, and only then if staff are trained in how to operate them and are confident they can use them without putting themselves or others at risk
- Staff and pupils will congregate at the assembly point – The Rugby Field.
- Form tutors/class teachers will take a register of pupils, which will then be checked against the attendance register of that day
- The Business Manager will take a register of all staff
- Staff and pupils will remain outside the building until the emergency services say it is safe to re-enter

Refuge Points

- Refuge points exist for staff or pupils on first and second floors that are unable to evacuate the building using the stairs (e.g. if someone is in a wheelchair).
- There are 9 Refuge Points in the school (3 in Humanities, 3 in Science and 3 in MFL)
- The Refuge Points are located next to fire proof doors that offer protection from flames/smoke for approximately 30 minutes.
- **In the event of a fire alarm, the member of staff (with a pupil who is unable to evacuate) should take the pupil to the Refuge Point and press the 'Call Button'.**
- Staff working with affected pupils should follow that pupil's PEEP (Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan).
- Once the pupil is at the Refuge Point the call button in the green box should be pushed. This will alert the Premises Team to the location and enable two-way communication.
- The member of staff with the pupil then has a choice. They can choose to stay with the pupil or they can leave the pupil and evacuate. This is a personal judgement call and no member of staff is obligated to stay.
- Fire Marshalls will also note the location of anyone at a Refuge Point.
- A decision will be taken, based on the circumstances, by the leadership team/premises team/emergency services whether the individual at the Refuge Point is evacuated.

6. COSHH

Schools are required to control hazardous substances, which can take many forms, including:

- Chemicals
- Products containing chemicals
- Fumes
- Dusts
- Vapours
- Mists
- Gases and asphyxiating gases
- Germs that cause diseases, such as leptospirosis or legionnaires disease

Control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH) risk assessments are completed by the Premises Manager and circulated to all employees who work with hazardous substances. Staff will also be provided with protective equipment, where necessary.

Our staff use and store hazardous products in accordance with instructions on the product label. All hazardous products are kept in their original containers, with clear labelling and product information.

Insert additional information on how hazardous products will be stored and details on pupil access to substances.

Any hazardous products are disposed of in accordance with specific disposal procedures.

Emergency procedures, including procedures for dealing with spillages, are displayed near where hazardous products are stored and in areas where they are routinely used.

6.1 Gas safety

- Installation, maintenance and repair of gas appliances and fittings will be carried out by a competent Gas Safe registered engineer.
- Gas pipework, appliances and flues are regularly maintained.
- All rooms with gas appliances are checked to ensure that they have adequate ventilation.

6.2 Legionella

- A water risk assessment is completed annually by the Premises Manager ensuring that the identified operational controls are conducted and recorded in the school's water log book
- This risk assessment will be reviewed annually and when significant changes have occurred to the water system and/or building footprint
- The risks from legionella are mitigated by having appropriate checks in place, including temperature, as well heating of water, disinfection of showers and flushing of rarely-used taps.

6.3 Asbestos

- Staff are briefed on the hazards of asbestos, the location of any asbestos in the school and the action to take if they suspect they have disturbed it.
- Arrangements are in place to ensure that contractors are made aware of any asbestos on the premises and that it is not disturbed by their work.
- Contractors will be advised that if they discover material which they suspect could be asbestos, they will stop work immediately until the area is declared safe.
- A record is kept of the location of asbestos that has been found on the school site.

6.4 Dust and fumes

- All processes conducted by school employees and contractors that result in the generation of dust or fumes will be subject to an assessment under the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (as amended).
- Control measures to protect personnel exposed to dust or fumes will be identified and put in place. All personnel likely to be exposed to the dust are to be informed of the harmful effects and of the precautions and control measures to be implemented to prevent, reduce or control exposure to the dust or fumes.
- Where identified by the risk assessment, suitable personal protective equipment will be provided to supplement other control measures. Personal protective equipment is to be worn by all personnel identified in the assessment in accordance with the training and instruction provided.

7. Equipment

- All equipment and machinery is maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. In addition, maintenance schedules outline when extra checks should take place.
- When new equipment is purchased, it is checked to ensure that it meets appropriate educational standards.
- All equipment is stored in the appropriate storage containers and areas. All containers are labelled with the correct hazard sign and contents.

7.1 Electrical equipment

- All staff are responsible for ensuring that they use and handle electrical equipment sensibly and safely.
- Any pupil or volunteer who handles electrical appliances does so under the supervision of the member of staff who so directs them.
- Any potential hazards will be reported to the Premises Team immediately.
- Permanently installed electrical equipment is connected through a dedicated isolator switch and adequately earthed.
- Only trained staff members can check plugs.
- Where necessary a portable appliance test (PAT) will be carried out by a competent person.
- All isolators switches are clearly marked to identify their machine.

- Electrical apparatus and connections will not be touched by wet hands and will only be used in dry conditions.
- Maintenance, repair, installation and disconnection work associated with permanently installed or portable electrical equipment is only carried out by a competent person.

7.2 PE equipment

- Pupils are taught how to carry out and set up PE equipment safely and efficiently. Staff check that equipment is set up safely.
- Any concerns about the condition of the flooring or other apparatus will be reported to the Premises Team.

7.3 Display screen equipment

- All staff who use computers daily as a significant part of their normal work have a display screen equipment (DSE) assessment carried out. 'Significant' is taken to be continuous/near continuous spells of an hour or more at a time
- Staff identified as DSE users are entitled to an eyesight test for DSE use upon request, and at regular intervals thereafter, by a qualified optician (and corrective glasses provided, if required specifically for DSE use)

7.4 Specialist equipment

Parents are responsible for the maintenance and safety of their children's wheelchairs. In school, staff promote the responsible use of wheelchairs.

8. Lone working

Lone working may include:

- Late working
- Home or site visits
- Weekend working
- Site manager duties
- Site cleaning duties
- Working in a single occupancy office

Potentially dangerous activities, such as those where there is a risk of falling from height, will not be undertaken when working alone. If there are any doubts about the task to be performed, then the task will be postponed until other staff members are available.

If lone working is to be undertaken, a colleague, (or friend/family member out of school hours) will be informed about where the member of staff is and when they are likely to return.

The lone worker will ensure that they are medically fit to work alone.

9. Working at height

We will ensure that work is properly planned, supervised and carried out by competent people with the skills, knowledge and experience to do the work.

In addition:

- The Premises Manager retains ladders for working at height.
- Pupils are prohibited from using ladders.
- Only trained staff are permitted to use a ladder.
- Staff will wear appropriate footwear and clothing when using ladders.
- Contractors are expected to provide their own ladders for working at height. However, we will still verify this.
- Before using a ladder, staff are expected to conduct a visual inspection to ensure its safety.
- Access to high levels, such as roofs, is only permitted by trained persons.

9.1 General

All work at height will be conducted in accordance with the Work at Height Regulations 2005 (as amended).

The school shall:

- Avoid work at height where they can.
- Use work equipment or other measures to prevent falls where they cannot avoid working at height.

The school will ensure:

- All work is properly risk assessed, planned and organised.
- All work at height takes account of weather conditions that could endanger health and safety.
- Those involved in work at height are trained and competent.
- The place where work at height is carried out is safe.
- Equipment for work at height is appropriately selected and inspected.
- The risks from fragile surfaces are properly controlled.
- The risks from falling objects are properly controlled.

9.2 Ladders and Stepladders

- All employees using ladders and stepladders will be fully trained and aware of the hazards and risks.
- Ladders, including stepladders, used by the school will be of the correct class (1 or 2) and in good condition. Measures must be taken to ensure that ladders and stepladders are secure, on a solid footing and, in the case of access ladders, are effectively secured to prevent movement.
- Ladders will be the subject of regular inspection by a competent person and defective ladders will be taken out of service immediately and reported to line management.

9.3 Fragile Surfaces

- School employees will not work on fragile surfaces.

10. Manual handling

It is up to individuals to determine whether they are fit to lift or move equipment and furniture. If an individual feels that to lift an item could result in injury or exacerbate an existing condition, they will ask for assistance.

The school will ensure that proper mechanical aids and lifting equipment are available in school, and that staff are trained in how to use them safely.

Staff and pupils are expected to use the following basic manual handling procedure:

- Plan the lift and assess the load. If it is awkward or heavy, use a mechanical aid, such as a trolley, or ask another person to help
- Take the more direct route that is clear from obstruction and is as flat as possible
- Ensure the area where you plan to offload the load is clear
- When lifting, bend your knees and keep your back straight, feet apart and angled out. Ensure the load is held close to the body and firmly. Lift smoothly and slowly and avoid twisting, stretching and reaching where practicable

11. Off-site visits

When taking pupils off the school premises, we will ensure that:

- Risk assessments will be completed where off-site visits and activities require them
- All off-site visits are appropriately staffed
- Staff will take a school mobile phone, a portable first aid kit, information about the specific medical needs of pupils along with the parents' contact details

12. Lettings

- This policy applies to lettings. Those who hire any aspect of the school site or any facilities will be made aware of the content of the school's health and safety policy and will have responsibility for complying with it.

13. Violence at work

- We believe that staff should not be in any danger at work and will not tolerate violent or threatening behaviour towards our staff.
- All staff will report any incidents of aggression or violence (or near misses) directed to themselves to their line manager/Headteacher immediately. This applies to violence from pupils, visitors or other staff.

14. Smoking

- Smoking (inc. Vaping) is not permitted anywhere on the school premises. This applies 24 hrs a day (inc. weekends and school holidays).

15. Infection prevention and control

We follow national guidance published by Public Health England (PHE) when responding to infection control issues (Please see Appendix 3). We will encourage staff and pupils to follow this good hygiene practice, outlined below, where applicable.

15.1 Handwashing

- Wash hands with liquid soap and warm water, and dry with a hand dryer or paper towels.
- Always wash hands after using the toilet, before eating or handling food, and after handling animals.
- Cover all cuts and abrasions with waterproof dressings.

15.2 Coughing and sneezing

- Cover mouth and nose with a tissue.
- Wash hands after using or disposing of tissues.
- Spitting is discouraged.

15.3 Personal protective equipment

- Wear disposable non-powdered vinyl or latex-free CE-marked gloves and disposable plastic aprons where there is a risk of splashing or contamination with blood/body fluids (for example, nappy or pad changing).
- Wear goggles if there is a risk of splashing to the face.
- Use the correct personal protective equipment when handling cleaning and other hazardous chemicals.

15.4 Cleaning of the environment

- Clean the environment frequently and thoroughly.

15.5 Cleaning of blood and body fluid spillages

- Clean up all spillages of blood, faeces, saliva, vomit, nasal and eye discharges immediately and wear personal protective equipment.
- When spillages occur, clean using a product that combines both a detergent and a disinfectant and use as per manufacturer's instructions. Ensure it is effective against bacteria and viruses and suitable for use on the affected surface.
- Never use mops for cleaning up blood and body fluid spillages – use disposable paper towels and discard clinical waste as described below.

15.6 Clinical waste

- Always segregate domestic and clinical waste.
- Used nappies/pads, gloves, aprons and soiled dressings are stored in correct clinical waste bags in foot-operated bins.
- Remove clinical waste with a registered waste contractor.
- Remove all clinical waste bags when they are two-thirds full and store in a dedicated, secure area while awaiting collection.

15.7 Animals

- Wash hands before and after handling any animals.
- Keep animals' living quarters clean and away from food areas.

- Dispose of animal waste regularly and keep litter boxes away from pupils.
- Supervise pupils when playing with animals.
- Seek veterinary advice on animal welfare and animal health issues, and the suitability of the animal as a pet.

15.8 Pupils vulnerable to infection

- Some medical conditions make pupils vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children.
- The school will normally have been made aware of such vulnerable children. These children are particularly vulnerable to chickenpox, measles or slapped cheek disease (parvovirus B19) and, if exposed to either of these, the parent/carer will be informed promptly, and further medical advice sought.
- Advise these children to have additional immunisations, for example for pneumococcal and influenza.

15.9 Exclusion periods for infectious diseases

- The school will follow recommended exclusion periods outlined by Public Health England, summarised in appendix 4. (Amend this sentence if removing appendix 4)
- In the event of an epidemic/pandemic, we will follow advice from Public Health England about the appropriate course of action.

16. New and expectant mothers

Risk assessments will be carried out whenever any employee or pupil notifies the school that they are pregnant.

Appropriate measures will be put in place to control risks identified. Some specific risks are summarised below:

- Chickenpox can affect the pregnancy if a woman has not already had the infection. Expectant mothers should report exposure to antenatal carer and GP at any stage of exposure. Shingles is caused by the same virus as chickenpox, so anyone who has not had chickenpox is potentially vulnerable to the infection if they have close contact with a case of shingles
- If a pregnant woman comes into contact with measles or German measles (rubella), she should inform her antenatal carer and GP immediately to ensure investigation
- Slapped cheek disease (parvovirus B19) can occasionally affect an unborn child. If exposed early in pregnancy (before 20 weeks), the pregnant woman should inform her antenatal care and GP as this must be investigated promptly

17. Occupational stress

- We are committed to promoting high levels of health and wellbeing and recognise the importance of identifying and reducing workplace stressors through risk assessment.
- Systems are in place within the school for responding to individual concerns and monitoring staff workloads.

18. Accident reporting

18.1 Accident record book

- An accident form will be completed as soon as possible after the accident occurs by the member of staff or first aider who deals with it. An accident form template can be found in Appendix 2
- As much detail as possible will be supplied when reporting an accident
- Information about injuries will also be kept in the pupil's educational record
- Records held in the first aid and accident book will be retained by the school for a minimum of 3 years, in accordance with regulation 25 of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979, and then securely disposed of.

18.2 Reporting to the Health and Safety Executive

The Business Manager will keep a record of any accident which results in a reportable injury, disease, or dangerous occurrence as defined in the RIDDOR 2013 legislation (regulations 4, 5, 6 and 7).

The Business Manager will report these to the Health and Safety Executive as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within 10 days of the incident.

Reportable injuries, diseases or dangerous occurrences include death and specified injuries that include:

- Fractures, other than to fingers, thumbs and toes
- Amputations
- Any injury likely to lead to permanent loss of sight or reduction in sight
- Any crush injury to the head or torso causing damage to the brain or internal organs
- Serious burns (including scalding)
- Any scalping requiring hospital treatment
- Any loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia
- Any other injury arising from working in an enclosed space which leads to hypothermia or heat-induced illness, or requires resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours
- Injuries where an employee is away from work or unable to perform their normal work duties for more than 7 consecutive days
- Where an accident leads to someone being taken to hospital

Near-miss events that do not result in an injury, but could have done, may need to be reported. Examples of near-miss events relevant to schools include, but are not limited to:

- The collapse or failure of load-bearing parts of lifts and lifting equipment
- The accidental release of a biological agent likely to cause severe human illness
- The accidental release or escape of any substance that may cause a serious injury or damage to health
- An electrical short circuit or overload causing a fire or explosion

Information on how to make a RIDDOR report is available here:

How to make a RIDDOR report, HSE: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/report.htm>

18.3 Notifying parents

- The First Aider/Head of Year will inform parents of any accident or injury sustained by a pupil, and any first aid treatment given, on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable.

18.4 Reporting to Ofsted and child protection agencies

- The Headteacher will notify Ofsted of any serious accident, illness or injury to, or death of, a pupil while in the school's care. This will happen as soon as is reasonably practicable, and no later than 14 days after the incident.
- The Headteacher will also notify Plymouth City Council of any serious accident or injury to, or the death of, a pupil while in the school's care.

19. Drivers

- All employees driving on school business must be qualified and medically fit to drive the vehicle and hold adequate insurance (if using their own vehicle). Employees must inform the school of any disqualifications or other reasons such as medical conditions that may affect their ability to drive or operate vehicles or plant.
- Where necessary employees will use the school minibuses to allow them to travel to and from locations.
- Employees provided with a Company vehicle will at all times meet the requirements of the
- Road Traffic Act and follow the guidance detailed in the Highway Code.
- Employees will drive courteously and in a non-aggressive manner.
- Employees will always plan their journeys to ensure that sufficient time is allowed for the journey taking into account prevailing weather and road conditions.
- Penalties incurred for breaches of the Road Traffic Act and other relevant legislation will be met by the individual employee. Disciplinary action may be taken against employees
- who frequently or excessively incur penalties for breaches of road traffic legislation.

19.1 School Vehicles

- The School will provide vehicles for use that are in roadworthy condition, meet all current legislative requirements and are fit for their intended use.
- Vehicles will be insured, taxed, serviced and maintained in a roadworthy condition at no expense to the individual user.
- Employees driving on school business will ensure the vehicle remains in a safe and roadworthy condition. Defects are to be immediately reported to management and remedial action taken at the earliest opportunity.

20. Training

- Our staff are provided with health and safety training as part of their induction process.
- Staff who work in high risk environments, such as in science labs or with woodwork equipment, or work with pupils with special educational needs (SEN), are given additional health and safety training.

21. Monitoring

- This policy will be reviewed annually by the Local Governing Body.

Appendix 1. Fire safety expectations

Key expectations for all staff at Plymstock School
I have read and clearly displayed (classroom/office) the school fire evacuation procedures.
I am clear about the quickest and safest evacuation route from my classroom/office, including an alternative route if available.
I know where my nearest fire alarm call point is located.
I know where the nearest fire refuge point is.
I am aware that under no circumstances should a fire exit, fire alarm call point or fire extinguisher be blocked or obstructed (even partially) in any way, at any time.
I am aware of the location of the nearest fire extinguisher.
I am aware that fire extinguishers should only be used if appropriate training has been received, and the member of staff feels confident to do so. The priority is always evacuation.
I am aware that in the event of discovering a fire, I must always trigger the full fire alarm through one of the fire alarm call points.
I am clear about my fire assembly point in the event of an evacuation.

Appendix 2. Accident Report Form

72	Book Number	1	Page Number	/ /	Date Completed		Person completed sheet handed to.
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A SEPARATE RECORD SHOULD BE FILED FOR EACH PERSON INVOLVED. It should then be removed and handed to the person or Department noted on the front cover of the book for safekeeping.

ACCIDENT REPORT FORM

1. Details of person involved in accident. *(For assistance see note 1 on page 3.)*

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Occupation:

Department:

2. Details about person filing this report. *(For assistance see note 2 on page 3.)*

If you did not have the accident but are filing the report, place your details below.

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Occupation:

Department:

3. Description of incident. *(Use the back of this form if more room required.) (For assistance see note 3 on page 3.)*

- A) Give time and date when accident occurred Date: / / Time:
- B) Give place of accident (Room/Dept./Area):
- C) Give details of how the accident occurred with cause if known:
- D) Give details of any injury suffered by person involved:
- E) Sign and date this record before handing to nominated record keeper, whose name is on the front of book. Please also write the date and the name of the person you handed this record to in the 2 boxes at the top of the sheet. You may take a copy of this record for your own records.
- Signed: Date: / /

4. To be completed by employer only. *(For assistance see note 4 on page 3.)*

Only complete this section if you need to report under RIDDOR. After satisfying yourself about the facts, you should decide whether a further risk assessment is necessary and whether the accident should be reported under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR). (See note 4 on page 3.)

How was the report notified to the HSE?

Date notified: / / Name (Capitals): Signature:

Appendix 3. Recommended absence period for preventing the spread of infection

This list of recommended absence periods for preventing the spread of infection is taken from [non-statutory guidance for schools and other childcare settings](#) from Public Health England (PHE).

Rashes and skin infections

Infection or complaint	Recommended period to be kept away from school or nursery	Comments
Athlete's foot	None	Athlete's foot is not a serious condition. Treatment is recommended.
Chickenpox	Until all vesicles have crusted over	Some medical conditions make children vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children, these include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers. These children are particularly vulnerable to chickenpox. Chickenpox can also affect pregnancy if a woman has not already had the infection.
Cold sores (herpes simplex)	None	Avoid kissing and contact with the sores. Cold sores are generally mild and self-limiting.
German measles (rubella)*	Four days from onset of rash (as per " Green Book ")	Preventable by immunisation (MMR x2 doses). If a pregnant woman comes into contact with German measles she should inform her GP and antenatal carer immediately to ensure investigation.
Hand, foot and mouth	None	
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted and healed, or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment	Antibiotic treatment speeds healing and reduces the infectious period.
Measles*	Four days from onset of rash	Preventable by immunisation (MMR x2 doses). Some medical conditions make children vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children, these

		include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers. These children are particularly vulnerable to measles. Measles during pregnancy can result in early delivery or even loss of the baby. If a pregnant woman is exposed she should immediately inform whoever is giving antenatal care to ensure investigation.
Molluscum contagiosum	None	A self-limiting condition.
Ringworm	Exclusion not usually required	Treatment is required.
Roseola (infantum)	None	
Scabies	Child can return after first treatment	Household and close contacts require treatment.
Scarlet fever*	Child can return 24 hours after starting appropriate antibiotic treatment	Antibiotic treatment is recommended for the affected child.
Slapped cheek syndrome/fifth disease (parvovirus B19)	None (once rash has developed)	Some medical conditions make children vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children, these include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers. These children are particularly vulnerable to parvovirus B19. Slapped cheek disease (parvovirus B19) can occasionally affect an unborn child. If exposed early in pregnancy (before 20 weeks), inform whoever is giving antenatal care as this must be investigated promptly.

Shingles	Exclude only if rash is weeping and cannot be covered	Can cause chickenpox in those who are not immune, i.e. have not had chickenpox. It is spread by very close contact and touch. If further information is required, contact your local PHE centre. Some medical conditions make children vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children, these include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers. These children are particularly vulnerable to shingles. Shingles can also affect pregnancy if a woman has not already had chickenpox.
Warts and verrucae	None	Verrucae should be covered in swimming pools, gymnasiums and changing rooms.

Diarrhoea and vomiting illness

Infection or complaint	Recommended period to be kept away from school or nursery	Comments
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting	
E. coli O157 VTEC Typhoid* [and paratyphoid*] (enteric fever) Shigella (dysentery)	Should be excluded for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea. Further exclusion may be required for some children until they are no longer excreting	Further exclusion is required for children aged 5 years or younger and those who have difficulty in adhering to hygiene practices. Children in these categories should be excluded until there is evidence of microbiological clearance. This guidance may also apply to some contacts who may also require microbiological clearance. Please consult your local PHE centre for further advice
Cryptosporidiosis	Exclude for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea	Exclusion from swimming is advisable for two weeks after the diarrhoea has settled

Respiratory infections

Infection or complaint	Recommended period to be kept away from school or nursery	Comments
Flu (influenza)	Until recovered	Some medical conditions make children vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children, these include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers. It may be advisable for these children to have additional immunisations, for example pneumococcal and influenza.
Tuberculosis*	Always consult your local PHE centre	Some medical conditions make children vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children, these include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers. It may be advisable for these children to have additional immunisations, for example pneumococcal and influenza.
Whooping cough*	Five days from starting antibiotic treatment, or 21 days from onset of illness if no antibiotic treatment	Preventable by vaccination. After treatment, non-infectious coughing may continue for many weeks. Your local PHE centre will organise any contact tracing necessary.

Other infections

Infection or complaint	Recommended period to be kept away from school or nursery	Comments
Conjunctivitis	None	If an outbreak/cluster occurs, consult your local PHE centre.
Diphtheria*	Exclusion is essential. Always consult with your local HPT	Family contacts must be excluded until cleared to return by your local PHE centre. Preventable by vaccination. Your local PHE centre will organise any contact tracing necessary.
Glandular fever	None	
Head lice	None	Treatment is recommended only in cases where live lice have been seen.

Hepatitis A*	Exclude until seven days after onset of jaundice (or seven days after symptom onset if no jaundice)	In an outbreak of hepatitis A, your local PHE centre will advise on control measures.
Hepatitis B*, C*, HIV/AIDS	None	Hepatitis B and C and HIV are bloodborne viruses that are not infectious through casual contact. All spillages of blood should be cleaned up immediately (always wear PPE). When spillages occur, clean using a product that combines both a detergent and a disinfectant. Use as per manufacturer's instructions and ensure it is effective against bacteria and viruses and suitable for use on the affected surface. Never use mops for cleaning up blood and body fluid spillages – use disposable paper towels and discard clinical waste as described below. A spillage kit should be available for blood spills.
Meningococcal meningitis*/septicaemia*	Until recovered	Meningitis C is preventable by vaccination There is no reason to exclude siblings or other close contacts of a case. In case of an outbreak, it may be necessary to provide antibiotics with or without meningococcal vaccination to close school contacts. Your local PHE centre will advise on any action is needed.
Meningitis* due to other bacteria	Until recovered	Hib and pneumococcal meningitis are preventable by vaccination. There is no reason to exclude siblings or other close contacts of a case. Your local PHE centre will give advice on any action needed.
Meningitis viral*	None	Milder illness. There is no reason to exclude siblings and other close contacts of a case. Contact tracing is not required.
MRSA	None	Good hygiene, in particular handwashing and environmental cleaning, are important to minimise any danger of spread. If further information is required, contact your local PHE centre.

Mumps*	Exclude child for five days after onset of swelling	Preventable by vaccination
Threadworms	None	Treatment is recommended for the child and household contacts.
Tonsillitis	None	There are many causes, but most cases are due to viruses and do not need an antibiotic.

* denotes a notifiable disease. It is a statutory requirement that doctors report a notifiable disease to the proper officer of the local authority (usually a consultant in communicable disease control). In addition, organisations may be required via locally agreed arrangements to inform their local PHE centre. Regulating bodies (for example, Ofsted/Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI)) may wish to be informed.