

Special Consideration in School

You need to tell us if your child has had an operation and is coming back to school with stitches or a plaster cast or if they need to miss their PE lessons and break-times. If your child has an on-going illness you may have to come into school to discuss this and agree a Health Care Plan or discuss a referral to the Home Tuition Service.

Medicine from the doctor

Sometimes you may keep your child at home because they are taking medicine given by your doctor. We have a Medication Policy here in school and Mrs Bassindale or Mrs McDermott are the people you need to talk to about this.

Letting us know if your child is ill.

If your child is not well enough to come to school you must contact the school as soon as possible to let us know. It will help us if you can give us some idea how long you would expect them to be away for (see parent's quick guide on the back of this leaflet). It is helpful if you let us know what is wrong with your child to help stop it being spread to other children in school. When your child comes back to school you may be asked to confirm why they have been absent. You may also be asked for an appointment card/letter, medication or prescription etc.

Contact Details

You need to make sure school has your current contact details including your work, home and mobile telephone numbers, and an emergency contact. It is important that school is able to contact you during the day if necessary.

Help and Advice

For further advice you can talk to a member of school staff. If you need any further medical advice you can call NHS Direct (111), visit your local GP or pharmacy

Parent's Quick Guide

If your child has a medical appointment or you think they are too ill to come to school

DAY 1– Let school know as soon as possible, tell us what is wrong with your child, any medical advice you have been given that the school might find helpful and when you think your child will be well enough to come back to school.

DAY 3– Contact school to update us on how your child is and if you know when they will be coming back to school

DAY 5 ONWARDS – Update school on your child's progress regularly. Any absence for longer periods may need to be supported by medical evidence. For example appointment card/letter, medication or prescription etc.

A child who has frequent absence due to illness may be offered a Support Plan or referred to the education Welfare Service.

**School contact number: 01724
798228**



School Absence Guide for Parents Medical Appointments and Illness

This Leaflet has been designed to help you make the right choices and advise you on the correct action to take when your child is ill

There is no reason to keep your child away from school for minor conditions such as:

Mouth Ulcers	Slapped Cheek
Athlete's Foot	Conjunctivitis
Hay Fever	Ringworm
Sore Throat	Threadworms
Hand, Foot and Mouth	Head Lice
Acne	Tonsillitis
Cold sores	Insect Bites/Stings

Remember, if you are concerned about any aspect of your child's health you should consult a health professional.

Advice can be obtained from the school, NHS direct, your local pharmacy, walk in centre or GP

Having a lot of time off school can be a serious problem for children as sometimes the work they miss is never made up. This can mean that they begin to fall behind. There is a clear link between poor school attendance and low levels of achievement. We need your help and support to deal with this problem. At present the main reason for pupil absence from school within the North Lincolnshire is illness. When deciding whether or not your child is too ill to come to school please ask yourself the following questions:

Is my child well enough to join in with the activities of the school day?

Does my child have an illness that could be passed on to other children or school staff?

Think carefully before keeping your child from school. If they wake up saying they are unwell, consider whether the symptoms mean they have to stay at home. **Do not keep your child away from school 'just in case' when they could be in class learning with their friends.**

If your child has a routine medical appointment they should be made outside of school hours whenever possible. However, if your child has an appointment in school time please bring your appointment letter or card to school to show the office staff.

Common conditions

Your local chemist can provide advice and medication for a wide range of common conditions. Sometimes it can be difficult to know just how ill your child is. Hopefully the information below might help.

Chicken pox

Children should be kept at home until the final blisters crust over, around 5 days from the start of the rash.

Coughs and colds

A child with a minor cough or cold may attend school. However, if your child has a raised temperature, shivers or drowsiness, they should stay at home and you should contact your doctor.

Earache

Contact your doctor

Headache

A child with a headache does not normally need to stay away from school. If the headache is more severe and other things are wrong e.g. a fever, you should contact your doctor.

Rashes

Rashes can be the first sign of many infectious diseases. If your child has a rash, check with the chemist, practice nurse or doctor before sending them to school.

Toothache

Please send your child to school until they have a dentist appointment.

Vomiting and/or Diarrhoea

Children who are sick or have diarrhoea should be kept at home for 48 hours after the last time they are ill or show signs of diarrhoea.

Before arranging an appointment with your doctor, you should try to get advice for these things from your local community pharmacy. They will also be able to provide advice on schemes which can help cover the costs of some medications, which would save a journey to your doctor. More detailed advice and information on these illnesses can be found at www.nhs.uk.

Absence for long periods of time

If your child is away from school due to illness for more than three days, or is often absent for short periods, we may ask you to bring in letters or appointments cards. If your child is often ill, the school may be able to offer you some support and advice – **please ask us**. If your child has had ten days absence in any one half term you will be asked to attend a meeting in school to discuss this.

More Serious Conditions

Asthma

If your child has been diagnosed with asthma you will need to let us know. It is your responsibility to make sure your child has an inhaler in school, labelled with your child's name and is not out of date. Speak to Mrs Morton if you need more information.

Broken Bones

We can usually make arrangements for children to come to school if they have broken a bone. The school may be able to help with transport and help your child to be comfortable in school. If your child has a broken bone please contact the school.

Eczema

Your child can attend school with eczema whilst being treated.

Impetigo

If your child has, or you suspect they have an impetigo infection, you **must** see your doctor and keep your child away from school until the sores have scabbed over and are healing, or 48 hours after starting medication. Don't forget to wash your hands to prevent the illness spreading!

High Temperature

You can usually tell if your child has a high temperature. There are lots of reasons for a raised temperature and you should speak to your doctor if you are worried.