



NEWBOLD SCHOOL

Sick Children Attending School

*Reviewed December by Mrs J Crissey and the school's First Aid Team
Ratified by Newbold School Board of Governors January 2022*

Parents are kindly asked to refer to the guidelines below before sending a sick child to school. Please

There are times when it is obvious that your child is simply too unwell to go to school; they are physically weak, in pain or clearly in a condition that would make a day in school too challenging for them as well as bringing unwelcome germs to their peers. Sometimes in our efforts to get them back to school as quickly as possible, we might not give our children enough time to recover. Here are some easy-to-remember guidelines.

High temperature

If your child has a raised temperature, they should stay off school. A raised temperature in children is **a reading of over 37.7°C or above**– take a reading, then another an hour or so later in case the first reading was just an abnormal spike. If you need to give your child Calpol, or any other such medicine, in order to make them feel well enough for school, you must keep them at home.

When can they go back to school after experiencing symptoms of illness?

1. **Raised temperature:** Children should not return to school until 48 hours after their temperature has returned to normal. A raised temperature is classed as a Covid-19 symptom. If a child shows signs of being feverish during school, we will check his/her temperature. If the child's temperature has risen slightly, we will monitor it and if it continues to rise, (or is 37.7c or over), we will call the parents to come and collect him/her. In such cases, the child should stay off school for 48 hours after his/her temperature has returned to normal. Children must return to school with a temperature raised above normal.
2. **Covid Symptoms:** If COVID symptoms appear, such as a new continuous cough and/or a raised temperature, feeling drowsy or get the shivers, we recommend getting a PCR test and remaining at home, self isolating, unless a negative result has been returned. If a negative PCR test is received, the child may return to school. Two negative LDF tests on Days 5 and 6 will enable the child to return to school.
3. If the test is positive, they must isolate. If they still have a raised temperature after a negative LFD test, they must not return to school until their temperature has been normal for 48 hours.

This applies even if a doctor has diagnosed your child with a common illness (ear infection, urine infection etc). Unless a negative COVID test has been returned, it is a judgement call whether or not they have the virus. Even a doctor cannot guarantee that the child doesn't

have Covid, as well as the common illness that is apparent. Our policies will be consistently followed and will override all other opinions, as we need to be extra cautious to protect everyone. This will also apply to the staff.

4. **Headache**

Mild headaches can be caused by feeling a bit upset or tired, and should not be a cause for concern. If your child does not get better when they return home from school at the end of the day, or if the headache gets worse, consult your GP. A mild headache should not require your child to miss school unless it is accompanied by COVID symptoms. You can also ask for advice from a pharmacist.

5. **Vomiting and diarrhoea** If your child has vomited or has had diarrhoea, you will need to **keep them off school for 48 hours after the last bout of vomiting/diarrhoea**, even if they appear to feel better after being sick. You may wish to get a COVID test done and if this returns negative before the 10 days are up and your child's symptoms have gone, they may return to school.

However, if your child is feeling slightly sick or has a stomach ache which passes quickly (without vomiting), keep them rested and send them to school when they feel better. You should, however, flag up any mild concern with the teacher and make sure the school has your contact details in case the symptoms develop further.

Most cases pass with rest and re-hydration, but if your child seems very unwell, contact your GP.

6. **Rashes**

Some children just get a heat rash, or they scratch an insect bite until it looks quite red and 'angry'. However, in smaller children especially, chicken pox or measles can be a concern. If the rash is all over the torso and appears 'lacey', it could be Fifth Disease (usually called 'Slapped Cheek'). If in doubt, or the rash is accompanied by your child feeling rundown, hot or nauseous, keep your child off school and call your GP before sending them back.

When can they go back to school? With Chickenpox, the spots may take a couple of weeks to disappear, but your child is fine to go back to school **once ALL the spots have crusted over and dried up completely**. This tends to be around one week after the first spots appear, but it can vary.

Keep in touch with the school

If your child needs to stay at home, call the school office to let us know as early as you can that day. If the school does not get notification, it will be recorded as an 'unauthorised absence'. We are required to keep trying to contact you (to ensure you are all safe). If we cannot reach you, we are required to make a visit to your home and if you still cannot be contacted, we are required to call the police.

Also keep the school up to date with any medical conditions your child may have along with any prescribed medication.

EARLY YEARS

1. Every child will be received at our EY garden gate and parents are not to enter the classroom. We will help the children put their things in the right places and wash their hands.

(See our Health and Safety, Safeguarding, First Aid, and policies)

Updated: February 2022

If a child shows any sign of being too unwell for school or having any related Covid symptoms, including a fever or cough, they will not be admitted to the setting. If they are already in school, they will be sent home. They will need to get a PCR test. They can take an LFD test on Days 5 and 6 of the virus and if both are negative, may return to school if they no longer have a raised temperature. Two consecutive days of receiving a negative test result will indicate they are ready to return to school.

The teacher in each class has the right to refuse admission if the child appears to have any symptoms on arrival. If it is apparent over the course of the morning that the child has any COVID-related symptoms, then the school will call you to collect your child. You will be required to come promptly.

If a child shows any sign of being too unwell for school do not send them in. It is recommended that children with heavy colds, sore throats and aches etc stay at home, as Early Years children spread germs due to their lack of personal hygiene skills

Children with a temperature (37.7c or above, or indeed a temperature that is rising) will be sent home.

Close Contacts: If someone in the child's household has tested positive for Covid, the child will be allowed to come to school unless they develop symptoms.