

07 December 2011

Dear Parents

Illness in School

We recognise that there will be occasions that your son or daughter may be unwell and that apart from the obvious discomfort and anxiety this will cause them it can cause challenges to you as parents. Our priority is to ensure that the pupils recover quickly and return to school but also to prevent unnecessary spread of disease.

To assist us we would be grateful if parents could kindly support us in particular by not sending pupils to school if they are displaying signs of illness. If parents do bring pupils to school and staff feel that they are unfit for school, they will be taken to the Medical Centre to be seen by the School Nursing Sister. Should it be felt that the pupil is unwell the School Nurse or member of staff will contact a Parent/emergency contact to take them home.

Pupils with infectious or contagious diseases should remain away from school for certain periods, in line with the Health Protection Agency Guidelines. If you are unsure please do feel free to contact the School Medical Centre for advice on returning to school.

Coughs and colds do not normally require pupils to be absent from school but this depends on the severity and how well the pupil is able to cope with the demands of the school day.

A pupil who has sickness or diarrhoea should not attend school for 48 hours after the last episode. Parents of any pupil who has sickness or diarrhoea whilst in school will be contacted and requested to collect the pupil immediately. However, we do recognise that there may be a number of reasons for which children are sick and therefore if you are unsure then we would ask that you contact the Medical Centre.

Pupils with a high temperature of 38°C/101°F should remain at home or will be requested to be collected if at school. Pupils can return to school when their temperature has returned to normal body temperature 36.5°C – 37.2°C (97.7°F – 98.9°F) without medication, for 24 hours.

We are grateful for your support and hope that we can keep absence of all members of the school community to the minimum.

Sister Deborah Wright
School Nurse