



Edgewood Primary School

Building skills and values for life

Guidance to manage winter illness

Dear parents / carers,

Please find on the link below guidance from the UKHSA issued after Christmas around managing winter illnesses.

[Back to school - 5 things to do to help manage winter illness - UK Health Security Agency \(blog.gov.uk\)](https://www.blog.gov.uk/2020/12/23/back-to-school-5-things-to-do-to-help-manage-winter-illness-uk-health-security-agency/)

Please note the guidance is clear that children only need to stay off school/nursery:

- If your child is unwell **and** has a fever.
- If your child has diarrhoea and or vomits for at least 48 hours after their symptoms clear up.

If they have had a fever, they should stay off school until they feel better and the fever has resolved.

If they have been sick or had diarrhoea they need to stay off for 48 hours after the last bout of vomiting or diarrhoea.

Please also bear in mind that if your child has a confirmed Strep A or Scarlett Fever case, they can return to school after taking antibiotics for 48 hours.

If your child has Covid, they should isolate for three days after the date they took the test.

Please note schools are still being told by the DfE to follow our attendance processes and procedures fully to ensure attendance is high following the pandemic. Please be assured that we are taking the higher rates of illness into account when we speak to parents and have meetings and when we consider what action, if any, needs to be taken with pupils that have low attendance.

Unfortunately, legally, we have only one register code for illness and therefore have no way that allows us to differentiate between significant illnesses, such as those above, and colds and sniffles when a pupil should really be in school. This means we are forced to log absences in certain, limited ways and means we must still send letters out to all pupils (as our policy details) to ensure that we can deal with pupils who are missing too much school for reasons that could be avoided.

For those of you receiving letters when your child has been unavoidably absent we hope you will understand and support us with trying to ensure every child misses as little school as possible.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Seeley,
Head teacher



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