

Caring for children who are unwell.



Reviewed and approved by:	Resources Committee of the Governing Body	
Date Adopted:	February 2024	
Date for next Review:	February 2025	
Signed by Name Printed:	Chair of Governors Kirsty Bull	Headteacher Jo Hall
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Date:	February 2024	February 2024



Policy when caring for children who are unwell

Saltergate Schools follow the Department of Health guidance on infection control in schools and nurseries. Where needed, professional advice will be sought on health matters, for example, the Community Infection Control Nurse or a Health Visitor.

All parents/carers are aware that all children, once they are exposed to other children, can contract infections and that children are equally likely to contract infections from their own families.

The staff follow a high standard of hygiene procedures during their daily care of the children to ensure that the risk of infection is minimised. These procedures follow guidelines from North Yorkshire Health Authority and the Department of Health and are continually reviewed.

Parents/carers are requested that:

- Children must not be brought to school if they are ill – parents must inform school of any illness. If the child is prescribed antibiotics, please allow 24 hours or until the child is well again before returning to school. However, if the child is too unwell to attend, or poses a risk to others in school, attendance may be refused.

Children must be free from diarrhoea and vomiting for 48 hours before returning to school. If staff are still worried about recurring diarrhoea, parents/carers may be asked to provide evidence from their GP to show that their child is clear from infection.

If a child becomes ill whilst at school, the parents/carers will be contacted to come and collect the child. Parents/carers are requested to collect their child as soon as possible following the telephone call to ensure that the risk of infection to other children is minimised. In the meantime, the child will be cared for sensitively, and may be moved away from the other children, if appropriate.

School reserves the right to use professional experience in attempting to identify any suspicious rashes, for example, impetigo, and may ask the parent/carer to collect the child and seek their doctor's opinion and advice.

If a child has conjunctivitis with a discharge parents/carers will be asked to keep the child away from school until it has been treated and there is no longer any discharge. (This is because it is highly contagious and easily transferred to others through touch).

- Parents/carers will be notified of any circulating illnesses within school via Parentmail and the weekly Newsletter.
- It is important for parents/carers to keep a look out for head lice in their child's hair, checking regularly by using the wet combing method.
- In accordance with guidance, if there is an outbreak of an infectious disease, or a certain number of cases of an illness, Environmental Health will be notified. If there is a case of a notifiable disease, the Local Environmental Health Officer will be informed.