



A guide for Pitmaston Parents and Carers

Illness & Absence from School

When your child is unwell it can be difficult deciding whether to keep them off school. This guide contains information about **common illnesses** your child might have, guidance on **whether or not you should bring them into school** and **how to contact school** to advise of your child's absence.

MY CHILD WILL BE ABSENT — WHAT DO I DO?



Please phone school ASAP, and no later than 9:30am, to leave a message on the absence line.

0 1 9 0 5 4 2 3 7 1 0

Option 1 - Absence Line



STATE YOUR CHILD'S NAME AND CLASS, THE REASON FOR THE ABSENCE, AND HOW LONG YOU EXPECT THEM TO BE OFF SCHOOL.

It is important you contact the school office directly—do not rely on staff at the gate passing on verbal messages to the office. If we do not hear from you, you will be contacted by the school office. If contact is not made a home visit may be carried out by our Family Support Worker and/or a member of our Senior Leadership Team.

CAN MY CHILD HAVE MEDICATION IN SCHOOL?

Please be aware we can only give your child medicine if:

1) it is **prescribed**

AND

2) you have completed an **'agreement for school to administer prescribed medication'** form (available from the office).



We are unable to give your child any other medication (such as Calpol) and children are not, under any circumstances, allowed to keep medication for self-administration in their bags — however, if you wish to come into school to give the medicine yourself we will be happy to help arrange this. Please also remember that, due to the significant choking hazard they present, cough sweets are not allowed in school at any time.



The NHS advise that a high temperature (fever) in children is **38°C or higher**



For further information about how parents and carers can work with school and Worcestershire Local Authority to support their child's attendance, follow the link to a short guide written by members of the Attendance Action Alliance, together with the Department for Education.

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/back-into-school/resources-for-families/>

More Info

DAYS TO BE KEPT AWAY FROM SCHOOL AS RECOMMENDED BY PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

RASHES AND SKIN INFECTIONS

Children with rashes should be considered infectious and assessed by their doctor.

Athlete's foot	None. Children will be required to keep socks on during inside PE lessons.
Chicken pox	At least 5 days from onset of rash and until all blisters have crusted over.
Cold sores	None.
Rubella (German measles)	5 days from onset of rash.
Hand, foot and mouth	None.
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted or healed, or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.
Measles	4 days from onset of rash and feeling well enough.
Ringworm	None. Treatment is needed.
Scabies	None (to avoid close physical contact with others until 24 hours after the first dose of chosen treatment).
Slapped cheek (Fifth Disease)	None (once rash has developed).
Shingles	While rash is weeping please keep your child off school.
Scarlet fever	Exclude until 24 hours after starting treatment. If no antibiotics are taken the child should be excluded until resolution of symptoms.
Warts and verrucae	None.

DIARRHOEA AND VOMITING

Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	Children should not return to school until at least 48 hours from the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea.
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RESPIRATORY INFECTION, INCLUDING COVID-19

Flu	Until recovered.
Whooping cough (pertussis)	2 days from starting antibiotic treatment, or 14 days from onset of coughing if no antibiotics.
COVID-19	Children should not attend if they have a high temperature and are unwell. Individuals who have a positive test for COVID-19 should not attend the setting for 3 days after the day of the test.

OTHER INFECTIONS/ILLNESS

Conjunctivitis	None, but treatment before returning to school is recommended to help ease discomfort for your child.
Glandular fever	Exclusion is not required and children can return once they feel well.
Head lice	None. To prevent further spread it is recommended that your child return to school once treatment has been applied.
Mumps	5 days after onset of swelling.
Threadworm	None. Treatment recommended for child and household.
Tonsillitis	None. There are many causes, but most cases are due to viruses and do not need or respond to an antibiotic treatment.

ASTHMA If your child has been diagnosed with Asthma please ensure we have a working, in-date inhaler, clearly labelled with their name on in school and you have completed the relevant forms. At school we have a Salbutamol inhaler, which can be administered in an emergency, however **ONLY** if you have completed and signed the appropriate consent form. If your child's asthma is severe a personalised care plan will be devised and shared with you for your signature and consent.



ALLERGIES If your child has a known allergy, or develops a new suspected intolerance, please ensure we are informed ASAP. If this is severe and your child requires an EpiPen to be kept in school, a personalised care plan will be devised and shared with you for your signature and consent. It is parents responsibility to ensure that all medication kept on site are in-date.



MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

We encourage parents/carers to make medical appointments outside of school hours, however we understand that this might not always be possible, i.e. hospital appointments which are often difficult to rearrange, or emergency appointments. We ask that advance notice is given when taking a child out of school for an appointment. Please leave a message on the absence line (01905 423710) or send the relevant details in an email to the school office (office@pitmaston.worcs.sch.uk).



SUPPORT

If you would like to share any health related concerns which are likely to impact your child's regular attendance at school, please come and have a chat with **Kelethe Pusharski**, our school Family Support Worker or **Mrs Bream**, Deputy Head Teacher.

