



## Shotton Hall Primary School

Working together to

**SHINE**

**Successful, Happy, Inspired and Nurtured towards Excellence**

### SICK CHILD POLICY

**Reviewed 25.3.21**

**Next Review March 22**

**Ratified 25.3.21**

**Signed A. M Boyd**

*C. Barclay COG*

#### **Rationale**

Shotton Hall Primary School recognises its responsibility to promote a culture where health issues are discussed in an open and positive way to achieve high standards. The health and wellbeing of children is of paramount importance to enable them to learn. In order to maintain a clean and healthy environment for all children we ask that parents refrain from bringing their child to school if he/she is sick and/or displaying signs of illness

#### **Purposes**

- To ensure sick children are identified
- To ensure sick children are cared for appropriately
- To protect children and adults from preventable infection
- To enable staff and parents to be clear about the requirements and procedures when children are unwell

#### **Guidelines**

If a child is off sick for 15 days or more we will contact the Education Health Needs (EHN) team and arrange for the child to be educated off site. We will work in partnership with the team to monitor provision, review progress and support a return to school.

If a child is thought to be unwell within the setting it is important to assess the condition of the child. This should be done in a kind and caring manner. The child will may be distressed, so it is important to be calm and reassuring. The office staff should be informed of any sick children.

We understand the needs of working parents and do not aim to exclude children from the school unnecessarily. However, the decision of the Head Teacher is final when requesting the exclusion of a child for illness or infection. Decisions will take into account the needs of the child and those of the group.

Children with infectious or contagious diseases will be excluded for certain periods. If staff suspect that a child has an infectious or contagious disease, they will request that parents consult a doctor before returning the child to school.

Should a child become ill whilst at school, the office staff will contact the parent or an emergency contact. While awaiting the arrival of parents, the staff will ensure the comfort of the child, taking appropriate action, which would include seeking medical advice if necessary. If the child is in danger, the staff will seek medical advice immediately.

Staff will report any worries about a child's health to the parents/guardians immediately. Parents are responsible for keeping school informed about the child's health.

We recommend that no child may attend the school while suffering from one of the communicable diseases and they should be excluded for the minimum periods recommended. Please see guidelines to illness / communicable diseases.

Coughs and colds do not normally require the child to be excluded but this depends on the severity and how the child is able to cope with the school routine. A child who is, or who appears to be unwell may be refused admission.

Although exposure of children to a communicable disease is not in itself sufficient reason to require their exclusion from nursery, any child who becomes a home contact of diphtheria, poliomyelitis, typhoid and paratyphoid fevers will be excluded.

A child who has sickness or diarrhoea whilst at school is to be collected immediately and kept away for 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.

Parents will always be contacted and informed if their child has a high temperature of 101F / 38C or above.

To prevent the spread of conjunctivitis, suspected cases will be reported immediately to parents who will be requested to take their child from school to be seen by a Doctor.

Chicken Pox – children need to be absent from school for a minimum of 5 days from the onset of the rash. After this time, if all the spots have dried and scabbed over, the child can return to school. Parents will also be contacted if their child develops a rash or suspected thrush. This will need to be checked by a Doctor whose advice should be followed.

If your child has not been his / her normal self at home but is not showing signs of illness when brought to school, please mention it to the staff and let them know how best to contact you throughout the day.

Should a first-aider/teacher consider the illness / situation to warrant immediate medical attention, the emergency services will be contacted to take the child directly to hospital and the parent / guardian notified accordingly.

At Shotton Hall Primary School, we are committed to providing the highest standards of care for your child.

If you have any further enquiries, please feel free to request more information from our staff. We operate an 'Open Door' policy towards parents so please feel free to come into our school at any time to discuss any concerns about your child. For Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and Other Childcare Settings see

[www.hpa.org.uk](http://www.hpa.org.uk)