

The St Michael Steiner School

Infectious and Communicable Diseases policy and procedure

We are committed to the health and safety of all staff and pupils and as such, will take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection. It will sometimes be necessary to require a poorly child to be collected early or be kept at home while they get better.

Parents/carers will be notified immediately if their child has become ill and needs to go home. Poorly children will be comforted, kept safe and under close supervision until they are collected.

If a child has had to go home prematurely due to illness, they should remain at home until they are better for at least 24 hours, or according to the times set out in the table below. If a member of staff becomes ill at work, similar restrictions on their return will apply.

If any infectious or communicable disease is detected at school, we will inform parents/carers personally in writing /email as soon as possible and where necessary, Ofsted.

Head lice

When a case of head lice is discovered, the child concerned will not be isolated from other children and there is no need for them to be excluded. Parents/carers will be informed in a sensitive manner, other parents/carers will be notified in writing, and all will be given advice and guidance on treating head lice.

Staff will check themselves regularly for lice and treat whenever necessary.

Minimum Exclusion Periods for Illness and Disease

DISEASE	PERIOD OF EXCLUSION
Antibiotics prescribed	First 24 hours
Chicken Pox	[5]7 days from when the rash first appeared
Conjunctivitis	24 hours or until the eyes have stopped 'weeping'
Diarrhoea	[48] 24 hours
Diphtheria	[exclude] Notifiable disease, local HPU will advise
Gastro-enteritis, food poisoning, Dysentery	48 hours from last episode of vomiting/diarrhoea 24 hours or until advised by the doctor/local HPU
Glandular Fever	None
Hand, Foot and Mouth disease children	None – contact local HPU re exclusion if large no. of affected
Hepatitis A [Notifiable]	7 days from onset of jaundice & when recovered disease]
Hepatitis B	None [Notifiable disease]
High temperature	24 hours

Impetigo antibiotics]	Until skin has healed [or 48 hours after commencing
Measles disease]	4 days from when the rash first appeared [Notifiable
Meningitis	Until certified well [Notifiable disease]
Mumps [Notifiable	7 days minimum or until the swelling has subsided disease]
Pediculosis (lice)	None
Pertussis (Whooping cough) antibiotics –	21 days from the onset [or 5 days from commencing Notifiable disease]
Plantar warts	Should be treated and covered
Poliomyelitis	Until certified well
Ringworm of scalp	Until cured
Ringworm of the body	exclusion not generally required
Rubella (German Measles)	6 days from onset of rash [Notifiable disease]
Scabies	Until treatment has been given
Scarlet fever disease]	24 hours after commencing antibiotics [Notifiable
Tonsillitis	None
Tuberculosis	Always consult HPU [Notifiable disease]
Typhoid fever disease]	Until declared free from infection by a doctor [Notifiable
Warts (including Verrucae) covered.	Exclusion not necessary. Sufferer should keep feet covered.

This list is not necessarily exhaustive, and staff are encouraged to contact local health services if they are in any doubt.