

8<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Families,

I hope you enjoyed a restful summer. It has been a pleasure to welcome pupils back to school this week.

I want to take this opportunity to highlight one of the most important components in ensuring your child achieves their full potential: **consistent school attendance**. Research consistently shows that pupils who attend school regularly make progress and build confidence and resilience.

Every single day of school matters and even a small number of absences can have a significant impact. Strong attendance helps your child to build the blocks of learning, develop life skills, take part in full enriching activities, make friends, widens their world and cements their feeling as a valuable part of our school community.

As families, you play a vital role in supporting good attendance; ensuring that your child attends school and communicating with us if any challenges arise. We are here to work with you if difficulties ever make attending school feel harder than it should be. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's class teacher should you face any challenges.

We understand there may be occasions where a pupil may need to take time off, for example, due to medical reasons or illness and we ask that you communicate this with us. Please refer to the NHS guidance to help you make a decision on their attendance. We have provided a helpful A-Z list below for your reference.

We share the responsibility of giving your child the very best start in life. By making daily attendance a priority, you are giving them a strong foundation for success.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. We look forward to working with you to make it a happy, productive and successful one for your child.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Bushell-Movahedi  
Assistant Headteacher

**The A-Z list below provides further guidance from the NHS website on common illnesses:**

**Chickenpox**

If your child has chickenpox, please keep them off school until all the spots have formed a scab. This is usually about five days after the spots first appeared.

**Cold sores**

There is no need to keep your child off school if they have a cold sore. Encourage them not to touch the blister or share things like cups and towels.

**Conjunctivitis**

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

**Coughs and colds**

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

**Ear infections**

If your child has an ear infection and a fever or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their fever goes away.

**Fever**

If your child has a high temperature (fever), keep them off school until the fever goes away.

**Hand, foot and mouth disease**

If your child has hand, foot and mouth disease but seems well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off.

**Head lice and nits**

There is no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice. See how to get rid of them.

**Impetigo**

If your child has impetigo, they will need antibiotic treatment from the GP. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment.

**Molluscum contagiosum**

Molluscum contagiosum is an infection that causes spots on the skin. It's usually harmless and rarely needs treatment. Molluscum contagiosum is contagious. It is usually passed on by direct skin to skin contact.

**Ringworm**

If your child has ringworm, see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see the GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

**Scarlet fever**

If your child has scarlet fever, they will need treatment with antibiotics from the GP. Otherwise they will be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

**Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)**

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because once the

rash appears, they're no longer infectious. If you suspect your child has slapped cheek syndrome, take them to the GP and let their school know if they're diagnosed with it.

**Sore throat**

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a fever, they should stay at home until it goes away.

**Threadworms**

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have threadworms. Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

**Vomiting and diarrhoea**

Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school for 2 days after their symptoms have gone.

Further information can be obtained from: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>