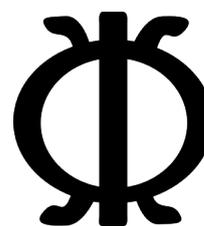


## Student sickness policy

Updated-September 2018



Due to the nature of the students we work with during the day, we have a much stricter policy on contagious illnesses than a school, and it may also contrast with key advisory services such as the NHS England website or the recommendations (which are recommended not legal guidelines) expressed in 'Guidance and infection control in schools or other childcare settings' produced by public health England in 2014.

Many of your students are highly sensory and highly anxious and therefore simply cannot cope with needing to use creams, eye drops, or take tablets. Also many of our students, due to their anxiety, will have days when they simply can't make it in; with their attendance already affected by their mental health needs we do not wish to add sickness days to the mix. It is therefore in everyone's interests to keep the levels of contagious illnesses as low as possible, and we ask parents to respect the reasons behind our policy.

We reserve the right to ask parents to keep students at home if we suspect that the symptoms they have may be contagious even if their condition is not directly listed below.

We reserve the right to also send your child home, for their own wellbeing. If their symptoms, even if not contagious, are preventing them from learning and they are blatantly not well.

Please do notify us if your child has any of the conditions below as we can then keep an eye out for any other students showing symptoms.

<b>ILLNESS</b>	<b>WHAT PARENTS NEED TO DO</b>	<b>CLEARANCE TIME BEFORE RETURNING TO REGULAR SESSIONS</b>
Stomach Upset	Medical attention if it becomes serious and watch out for dehydration. Please do not send a student in on a day when they have vomited or had trouble at the other end. The only exception to this is a student who we know are regularly physically sick due to anxiety.	Child to be kept away for 3 days starting after the last episode of sickness.
Eye infection	Visit a pharmacist or doctor (depending on severity) to be sure whether it is bacterial or viral.	Viral conjunctivitis is highly contagious; please keep at home for 5 days. Bacterial eye infections are highly contagious if weeping and if the student can't stop touching their eye. Please keep at home for 5 days and treat until the weeping/crusting

		has stopped.
Ring Worm	Usually needs to be seen by a doctor to be sure. They will prescribe cream and anti-fungal tablets.	Contagious through touch. Please treat and return in 5 days.
Impetigo	Lesions need to crust and heal. Ideally the child should be treated with antibiotics	3 days after the treatment from antibiotics
Scabies	Treatment will be needed for the immediate family, the student and the household.	5 days clearance after treatment has started please.
Head Lice	Whilst some parents choose to use the conditioner and combing method, we would recommend using a lotion that kills both lice and eggs, as for the types of students we work with, this gets rid of the problem more quickly and reduces anxiety.	If using the combing method, please keep the student off for 5 days. If using the instant lotion, for lice and eggs, the student can return the day after treatment provided no live lice are seen, and dead eggs have been combed.
Thread worms	This is a really distressing condition for our clients to get, especially for those having treatment for psychosis or PTSD. Please ensure that you get the treatment quickly from your GP, wash all linens and towels. Ensure very good hygiene at home and school around toileting.	One treatment has started; please keep your child away for 3 days.
Cold Sores	Please treat immediately with over the counter creams.	Your child can attend if they are very strict in not touching the sore – So please speak to them about it.
Hand foot and mouth	Seek treatment from your GP	We ask for a 3 day break from the time medication commences.
Slapped cheek / parvovirus Also Rubella	To be identified by a GP, but it is a viral infection, so they will not give anti-biotics.	Due to the fact that pregnancies may not be known until 12 weeks – people do not always choose to tell their employer. We ask for a 5 day clearance. In any case your child will not be feeling well- keep them at home.
Shingles	Please see a GP to confirm	If rash is weeping and can't be

	diagnosis.	covered, then the student should not attend for 3-5 days
Warts and verrucae	Please treat using over the counter medication.	Please cover and talk to your child about not touching and picking.
Common cold	If the student is runny, sneezing and coughing, then please keep them at home, as they will need to be warm and comfortable.	If the student is too unwell to learn, they are better at home resting up and not giving their cold to everyone else.

**For the following less common conditions, we follow the guidelines laid down in the document 'Guidance and Infection Control in Schools or other Childcare Settings' produced by public health England 2014.**

**Some of these infections require us to notify the authorities of an outbreak.**

- **E coli**
- **Cryptosporidiosis**
- **Influenza**
- **Tuberculosis**
- **Whooping cough**
- **Diphtheria**
- **Glandular fever**
- **Hepatitis A**
- **Hepatitis B / C / AIDS and HIV**
- **Meningitis**
- **MRSA**
- **Mumps**
- **Chickenpox**
- **Scarlet fever**