

Health and Safety Policy
St Mary's Catholic Primary School



Reviewed: September 2026

Love, Listen and Learn

Mission Statement

St. Mary's school community follows the teachings of Jesus Christ, working together to develop the whole child, in a spiritual, moral, academic, physical, social and emotional way, within a caring and supportive environment.

Ethos

We recognise that there is a challenge in creating an enriching environment for all those involved at every level of school life. We take our lead and inspiration from Christ with regard to the Gospel values: the belief that all human beings are uniquely created and loved by God and worthy of respect. This challenge manifests itself in the way that we treat and value:

- Our relationships with each other and the wider community
- Our respect for one another
- Our welcome to and interest in all those who visit our school
- Discipline inspired by forgiveness, healing and reconciliation
- Our school environment

Through rising to this challenge, we aim to create an awareness of a sense of belonging to and being part of the life of St Mary's.

The Aims of our School

We will endeavour to create a Catholic Ethos in our school, which reflects the Gospel values, through the love, care and respect we show to each other, and to all who come to our school. We will teach the beliefs, traditions and practices of the Catholic Faith.

Through the prayer and worship in school we will try to be a living community of people celebrating their love for God and one another.

We believe the quality of the curriculum, with Religious Education at its core, is of prime importance and will focus on the development of the whole child. We will at all times try to make provision for children with special needs, so that all members of our school community achieve their potential.

We will help the children to develop an awareness of and respect for other religious and cultural backgrounds, as we believe this to be an essential preparation for adult life.

We believe that good communication between governors, staff, parents and children is important for the wellbeing of our school, and we will work in partnership with the wider community especially the home and parish in developing each child's potential.

The Aims for Each Child at St Mary's Catholic Primary School

- ◆ Whilst at St. Mary's School I will learn about being a Christian. I will experience the beliefs, traditions and practices of the Catholic Faith.
- ◆ I will achieve as much as I possibly can in each area of the National Curriculum.
- ◆ I will know how to learn and enjoy learning, and will view work in a positive and conscientious manner.
- ◆ I will co-operate and communicate with others effectively, independently and in a group, and try to win and lose graciously.
- ◆ I will tolerate and respect the religious beliefs, views and values of others, understand the need for good behaviour and moderate my behaviour accordingly. I will respect the belongings and property of others.
- ◆ If I have a problem I know I can find someone who will discuss it with me.
- ◆ I will try to learn from my mistakes and accept there is always room for improvement.
- ◆ I will share a sense of responsibility for my school, parish, local community and the wider environment.

1.Aims

Statement of intent

The governing body of St Mary's Catholic Primary School will meet their responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act and other health and safety legislation to provide safe and healthy working conditions for employees, and ensure their work does not adversely affect the health and safety of others (including pupils, visitors, contractors etc.). Details of how this will be achieved are given in this health and safety statement.

The Governing Body will ensure that effective consultation takes place with all employees on health and safety matters and that individuals are consulted before allocating particular health and safety functions to them. Where necessary the Governing Body will seek specialist advice to determine the risks to health and safety in the school and the precautions required to deal with them. The Governing Body will provide sufficient information and training in health and safety matters to all employees in respect to the risk of their health and safety. The Governing Body requires the support of all staff to enable the maintenance of high standards of health and safety in the school's activities.

The school is committed to continually improving its health and safety performance.

Policy Statement

This policy covers staff, pupils, visitors and other users of the premises. It aims to show how the governors and headteacher discharge their duties under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. The leadership team of the school and the governing body are committed to ensuring the Health and Safety of everybody involved in the school.

We aim to:

- Ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to ensure the health, safety and welfare of users of the premises and all participants in school trips.
- Establish and maintain safe working procedures for staff and pupils.
- To provide and maintain safe school buildings and safe equipment for use in school.
- Develop safety awareness, by appropriate training if necessary, amongst staff, pupils and others who help in school.
- Formulate and implement effective procedures for use in the event of fire and other emergencies.
- Investigate accidents and take steps to prevent a re-occurrence.

2. Legislation

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education on [health and safety in schools](#) and the following legislation:

- [The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974](#), which sets out the general duties employers have towards employees and duties relating to lettings
- [The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992](#), which require employers to make an assessment of the risks to the health and safety of their employees
- [The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#), which require employers to carry out risk assessments, make arrangements to implement necessary measures, and arrange for appropriate information and training
- [The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002](#), which require employers to control substances that are hazardous to health
- [The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations \(RIDDOR\) 2013](#), which state that some accidents must be reported to the Health and Safety Executive and set out the timeframe for this and how long records of such accidents must be kept
- [The Health and Safety \(Display Screen Equipment\) Regulations 1992](#), which require employers to carry out digital screen equipment assessments and states users' entitlement to an eyesight test
- [The Gas Safety \(Installation and Use\) Regulations 1998](#), which require work on gas fittings to be carried out by someone on the Gas Safe Register
- [The Regulatory Reform \(Fire Safety\) Order 2005](#), which requires employers to take general fire precautions to ensure the safety of their staff
- [The Work at Height Regulations 2005](#), which requires employers to protect their staff from falls from height

The school follows [national guidance published by UK Health Security Agency \(formerly Public Health England\)](#) and government guidance on [living with COVID-19](#) when responding to infection control issues.

Sections of this policy are also based on the [statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage](#).

3. Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Body

- The Governing Body has the following responsibilities to ensure:
- A clear written policy statement is created which promotes the correct attitude towards safety in staff and pupils.
- Responsibilities for health, safety and welfare are allocated to specific people and these people are informed of these responsibilities.
- Persons have sufficient experience, knowledge and training to perform the tasks required of them.
- Clear procedures are created which assess the risk from hazards and produce safe systems of work.
- Sufficient funds are set aside with which to operate safe systems of work.
- Health and safety performance is measured actively and reactively.
- The school's health and safety policy is reviewed annually.

The Headteacher

The headteacher has the following responsibilities to:

- Be fully committed to the Governing Body's Statement of Intent for Health and Safety.
- Ensure that a clear written policy for health and safety is created.
- Ensure that the policy is communicated adequately to all relevant persons.

- Ensure that appropriate information on significant risk activities is given to visitors and contractors.
- Ensure appropriate consultation arrangements are in place for staff.
- Ensure that all staff are provided with adequate information, instruction and training on health and safety issues.
- Make or arrange for risk assessments of the premises and working practices to be undertaken.
- Ensure safe systems of work are in place as identified from risk assessments.
- Ensure that emergency procedures are in place.
- Ensure that equipment is inspected and tested to ensure it remains in a safe condition.
- Ensure records are kept of all relevant health and safety activities e.g. assessments, inspections, accidents etc.
- Ensure that all accidents are investigated and any remedial actions required are taken or requested.
- Report to the Governing Body annually on the health and safety performance of the school.

Site management – Shields Personnel

The site manager has the following responsibilities to:

1. Be responsible, under the general supervision and direction of the headteacher for the effective maintenance and development of the school's premises and grounds, this includes -
 - The security of the school buildings and grounds.
 - Visual inspections of the site.
 - The maintenance and repair of fittings, furniture and non-electrical equipment.
 - The maintenance and decoration of certain aspects of the school buildings.
 - The monitoring of the heating plant for the school.
 - The cleaning, maintenance and development of external areas of the site.
 - General portage duties as required.
 - The cleaning of certain areas within the school.
 - The cleaning of windows and glazed areas in accordance with the LA's safety policy.
2. To act as a first line client representative in monitoring the performance of contracted staff.

School Health and Safety lead – Deputy / Assistant Head

The school health and safety lead has the following responsibilities:

- To coordinate and manage the annual risk assessment process for the school.
- To coordinate the general school monitoring inspection process.
- To make provision for the inspection and maintenance of work equipment throughout the school.
- To manage the keeping of records of all health and safety activities
- To advise the headteacher of situations or activities which are potentially hazardous to the health and safety of staff, pupils and visitors.
- To ensure that staff are adequately instructed in safety and welfare matters about their specific work place and the school generally.
- To carry out any other functions devolved to her by the headteacher or Governing Body.

Teaching / Non-Teaching Staff holding positions of responsibility.

This includes senior leaders, admin and welfare staff. They have a responsibility to:

- Apply the school's health and safety policy to their own area of work and be directly responsible to the headteacher for the application of health and safety procedures and arrangements.
- Carry out regular health and safety risk assessments of the activities for which they are responsible

- Ensure that all adults working with them or under their direction are familiar with the health and safety code of practice for their area of work
- Resolve health, safety and welfare problems members of staff refer to them or refer them to the headteacher (deputy head) for any problems to which they cannot achieve a satisfactory solution.
- Carry out regular checks of their areas of responsibility and record anything which needs attention.
- Ensure so far as is reasonably practicable, the provision of sufficient information, instruction, training and supervision to enable staff and pupils to avoid hazards and contribute positively to their own health and safety.
- Report any accidents defects and dangerous occurrences including near misses.

Class Teachers

Class teachers are expected to:

- Apply the school's health and safety policy to their own area of work and be directly responsible to the headteacher for the application of health and safety procedures and arrangements.
- Exercise effective supervision of their pupils, to know the procedures for fire, first aid and other emergencies and to carry them out.
- Follow the particular health and safety measures to be adopted in teaching specific areas of the curriculum and to ensure they are applied.
- Give oral and written instructions and warnings to pupils when necessary.
- Follow safe working procedures.
- Make recommendations to the headteacher on equipment or improvements in their classrooms or area of responsibility relevant to health and safety.
- Integrate all relevant aspects of safety into the teaching process.
- Ensure all personal items of equipment used in school (electrical and mechanical) are tested for safety.
- Report all accidents, defects and dangerous occurrences to the headteacher.

All Employees

All employees have individual legal responsibilities to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and for others who may be affected by their acts or omissions. In particular employees must:

- Comply with the school's health and safety policy and procedures at all times – in particular procedures for fire, first aid and other emergencies.
- Co-operate with school management in complying with relevant health and safety law.
- Use all work equipment and substances in accordance with instruction, training and information received.
- Report to senior staff any hazardous situations and defects in equipment found in classrooms or any area where they are working / supervising pupils.
- Report all incidents in line with current incident reporting procedure.
- Act in accordance with any specific health and safety training received.
- Exercise good standards of housekeeping and cleanliness
- Co-operate with appointed trade union health and safety representative.

Pupils

Pupils, allowing for their age and aptitude are expected to:

- Exercise personal responsibility for the health and safety of themselves and others.
- Observe standards of dress consistent with safety and / or hygiene.
- Observe all the safety rules of the school and in particular the instructions of staff given in an emergency.
- Use and not wilfully misuse, neglect or interfere with things provided for their health and safety.

4. Site security

Shields Personnel are responsible for the security of the school site in and out of school hours. They are responsible for visual inspections of the site, and for the intruder and fire alarm systems. Shields Personnel (site management) are key holders and will respond to an emergency.

5. Fire

Emergency exits, assembly points and assembly point instructions are clearly identified by safety signs and notices. Fire risk assessment of the premises will be reviewed regularly.

Emergency evacuations are practised at least once a term.

The fire alarm is a loud continuous bell

Fire alarm testing will take place once a week

New staff will be trained in fire safety and all staff and pupils will be made aware of any new fire risks.

In the event of a fire:

- The alarm will be raised immediately by whoever discovers the fire and emergency services contacted by the admin officer. Evacuation procedures will also begin immediately
- Fire extinguishers may be used by staff only, and only then if staff are trained in how to operate them and are confident they can use them without putting themselves or others at risk
- Staff and pupils will congregate at the assembly point in the playground.
- Class teachers will take a register of pupils which will then be checked against the attendance of that day
- Staff and pupils will remain outside the building until the emergency services say it is safe to re-enter

The school will have special arrangements in place for the evacuation of people with mobility needs and fire risk assessments will also pay particular attention to those with disabilities.

6. COSHH

Schools are required to control hazardous substances, which can take many forms, including:

- Chemicals
- Products containing chemicals
- Fumes
- Dusts
- Vapours
- Mists
- Gases and asphyxiating gases
- Germs that cause diseases, such as leptospirosis or legionnaires disease

Control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH) risk assessments are completed by the deputy head and circulated to all employees who work with hazardous substances. Staff will also be provided with protective equipment, where necessary.

Our staff use and store hazardous products in accordance with instructions on the product label. All hazardous products are kept in their original containers, with clear labelling and product information.

All chemical substances are kept in locked cupboards which cannot be accessed by pupils during the school day.

Any hazardous products are disposed of in accordance with specific disposal procedures.

6.1 Gas safety

- Installation, maintenance and repair of gas appliances and fittings will be carried out by a competent Gas Safe registered engineer
- Gas pipework, appliances and flues are regularly maintained

- All rooms with gas appliances are checked to ensure they have adequate ventilation

6.2 Legionella

- A water risk assessment is carried out on behalf of the school by HSL Compliance (through the LA)
- This risk assessment is reviewed every year and when significant changes have occurred to the water system and/or building footprint
- The risks from legionella are mitigated by the following: temperature checks, heating of water, disinfection of and running off showers, etc.

6.3 Asbestos

- The Board of Governors accepts that ACMs in the school premises, if badly maintained or mishandled, may present a risk to health. However, when in good condition and well maintained, present a very low risk to health. Equally the Board of Governors accepts that materials containing asbestos may form an integral and valuable part of many premises e.g. asbestos cement roofing.
- The school's records indicate that all previously identified asbestos has been removed over the years as building work has been carried out in the school. (Completed Summer 2012)
- A record is kept of the location of asbestos that was previously found on the school site and of its condition / removal.

7. Equipment

All equipment and machinery is maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. In addition, maintenance schedules outline when extra checks should take place.

When new equipment is purchased, it is checked to ensure it meets appropriate educational standards.

All equipment is stored in the appropriate storage containers and areas. All containers are labelled with the correct hazard sign and contents.

7.1 Electrical equipment

- All staff are responsible for ensuring they use and handle electrical equipment sensibly and safely
- Any pupil or volunteer who handles electrical appliances does so under the supervision of the member of staff who so directs them
- Any potential hazards will be reported to Shields Personnel immediately
- Permanently installed electrical equipment is connected through a dedicated isolator switch and adequately earthed
- Only the site manager can check plugs
- Annual portable appliance testing (PAT) is carried out by a competent person
- All isolator switches are clearly marked to identify their machine
- Electrical apparatus and connections will not be touched by wet hands and will only be used in dry conditions
- Maintenance, repair, installation and disconnection work associated with permanently installed or portable electrical equipment is only carried out by a competent person

7.2 PE equipment

- Pupils are taught how to carry out and set up PE equipment safely and efficiently. Staff check that equipment is set up safely.
- Any concerns about the condition of the hall floor or other apparatus will be reported to Shields Personnel and school office staff.

7.3 Display screen equipment

- All staff who use computers daily as a significant part of their normal work have a display screen equipment (DSE) assessment carried out. 'Significant' is taken to be continuous/near continuous spells of an hour or more at a time

- Staff identified as DSE users are entitled to an eyesight test for DSE use upon request, and at regular intervals thereafter, by a qualified optician (and corrective glasses provided if required specifically for DSE use)

8. Lone working

- Lone working may include:
- Late working
- Home or site visits
- Weekend working
- Site manager duties
- Site cleaning duties
- Working in a single occupancy office
- Remote working, self-isolation and/or remote learning

Potentially dangerous activities, such as those where there is a risk of falling from height, will not be undertaken when working alone. If there are any doubts about the task to be performed, then the task will be postponed until other staff members are available.

If lone working is to be undertaken, a colleague, friend or family member will be informed about where the member of staff is and when they are likely to return.

The lone worker will ensure they are medically fit to work alone.

9. Working at height

We will ensure that work is properly planned, supervised and carried out by competent people with the skills, knowledge and experience to do the work.

In addition:

- The site manager retains ladders for working at height
- Pupils are prohibited from using ladders
- Staff will not be required to use ladders but will ask the site manager to assist them in their classrooms for example when putting up displays
- Contractors are expected to provide their own ladders for working at height
- Before using a ladder, site staff are expected to conduct a visual inspection to ensure its safety
- Access to high levels, such as roofs, is only permitted by trained persons

10. Manual handling

It is up to individuals to determine whether they are fit to lift or move equipment and furniture. If an individual feels that to lift an item could result in injury or exacerbate an existing condition, they will not lift it and will instead ask for assistance.

The school will ensure that proper mechanical aids and lifting equipment are available in school, and that staff are trained in how to use them safely.

Staff are expected to use the following basic manual handling procedure:

- Plan the lift and assess the load. If it is awkward or heavy, use a mechanical aid, such as a trolley, or ask another person to help
- Take the more direct route that is clear from obstruction and is as flat as possible
- Ensure the area where you plan to offload the load is clear
- When lifting, bend your knees and keep your back straight, feet apart and angled out.
- Ensure the load is held close to the body and firmly. Lift smoothly and slowly and avoid twisting, stretching and reaching where practicable

11. Off-site visits

When taking pupils off the school premises, we will ensure that:

- Risk assessments are completed
- All off-site visits are appropriately staffed
- Staff will take a mobile phone, an appropriate portable first aid kit, information about the specific medical needs of pupils, along with the parents' contact details
- There will always be at least one first aider on school trips and visits
- For trips and visits with pupils in the Early Years Foundation Stage, there will always be at least one first aider with a current paediatric first aid certificate

12. Violence at work

We believe that staff should not be in any danger at work, and we will not tolerate violent or threatening behaviour towards our staff.

All staff will report any incidents of aggression or violence (or near misses) directed to themselves to the headteacher (or deputy head) immediately. This applies to violence from pupils, visitors or other staff.

13. Smoking

Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the school premises.

14. Infection prevention and control

We follow local authority and national guidance (published by the UK Health Security Agency) when responding to infection control issues. We will encourage staff and pupils to follow this good hygiene practice, outlined below, where applicable:

14.1 Handwashing

- Wash hands with liquid soap and warm water, and dry with paper towels
- Always wash hands after using the toilet, before eating or handling food, and after handling animals
- Cover all cuts and abrasions with waterproof dressings

14.2 Coughing and sneezing

- Cover mouth and nose with a tissue
- Wash hands after using or disposing of tissues

14.3 Personal protective equipment

- Staff wear disposable non-powdered vinyl or latex-free CE-marked gloves and disposable plastic aprons where there is a risk of splashing or contamination with blood/body fluids.
- Wear goggles if there is a risk of splashing to the face
- Use the correct personal protective equipment when handling cleaning chemicals
- Use personal protective equipment (PPE) to control the spread of infectious diseases where required or recommended by government guidance and/or a risk assessment

14.4 Cleaning of the environment

- Clean the environment, including toys and equipment, frequently and thoroughly

14.5 Cleaning of blood and body fluid spillages

- Clean up all spillages of blood, faeces, saliva, vomit, nasal and eye discharges immediately and wear personal protective equipment

- When spillages occur, clean using a product that combines both a detergent and a disinfectant, and use as per manufacturer's instructions. Ensure it is effective against bacteria and viruses, and suitable for use on the affected surface
- Never use mops for cleaning up blood and body fluid spillages – use disposable paper towels and discard clinical waste as described below

14.6 Laundry

- Wash laundry in a separate dedicated facility
- Wash soiled linen separately and at the hottest wash the fabric will tolerate
- Wear personal protective clothing when handling soiled linen
- Bag children's soiled clothing to be sent home, never rinse by hand

14.7 Clinical waste

- Always segregate domestic and clinical waste, in accordance with local policy
- Used nappies/pads, gloves, aprons and soiled dressings are stored in correct clinical waste bags in foot-operated bins
- Remove clinical waste with a registered waste contractor
- Remove all clinical waste bags when they are two-thirds full and store in a dedicated, secure area while awaiting collection

14.8 Infectious disease management

We will ensure adequate risk reduction measures are in place to manage the spread of acute respiratory diseases, including COVID-19, and carry out appropriate risk assessments, reviewing them regularly and monitoring whether any measures in place are working effectively.

We will follow local and national guidance on the use of control measures including:

Following good hygiene practices

- We will encourage all staff and pupils to regularly wash their hands with soap and water or hand sanitiser and follow recommended practices for respiratory hygiene. Where required, we will provide appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)

Implementing an appropriate cleaning regime

- We will regularly clean equipment and rooms, and ensure surfaces that are frequently touched are cleaned twice a day.

Keeping rooms well ventilated

- We will use risk assessments to identify rooms or areas with poor ventilation and put measures in place to improve airflow, including opening external windows, opening internal doors and mechanical ventilation

14.10 Pupils vulnerable to infection

Some medical conditions make pupils vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children. The school will normally have been made aware of such vulnerable children. These children are particularly vulnerable to chickenpox, measles or slapped cheek disease (parvovirus B19) and, if exposed to any of these, the parent/carer will be informed promptly and further medical advice sought. We will advise these children to have additional immunisations, for example for pneumococcal and influenza.

14.11 Exclusion periods for infectious diseases

The school will follow recommended exclusion periods outlined by the UK Health Security Agency and other government guidance, summarised in appendix 1.

In the event of an epidemic/pandemic, we will follow advice from the local authority (and UK Health Security Agency) about the appropriate course of action.

15. New and expectant mothers

Risk assessments will be carried out whenever any employee or pupil notifies the school that they are pregnant.

Appropriate measures will be put in place to control risks identified. Some specific risks are summarised below:

- Chickenpox can affect the pregnancy if a woman has not already had the infection.
- Expectant mothers should report exposure to an antenatal carer and GP at any stage of exposure. Shingles is caused by the same virus as chickenpox, so anyone who has not had chickenpox is potentially vulnerable to the infection if they have close contact with a case of shingles
- If a pregnant woman comes into contact with measles or German measles (rubella), she should inform her antenatal carer and GP immediately to ensure investigation
- Slapped cheek disease (parvovirus B19) can occasionally affect an unborn child. If exposed early in pregnancy (before 20 weeks), the pregnant woman should inform her antenatal care and GP as this must be investigated promptly
- Some pregnant women will be at greater risk of severe illness from COVID-19

16. Occupational stress

We are committed to promoting high levels of health and wellbeing, and recognise the importance of identifying and reducing workplace stressors through risk assessment.

Systems are in place within the school for responding to individual concerns and monitoring staff workloads.

The occupational health service will be called to offer support as necessary. Anyone who thinks they may be suffering stress / mental health issues should bring this concern to the headteacher

17. Accident reporting

17.1 Accident record book

- A record of any accident will be completed as soon as possible after the accident occurs by the member of staff or first aider who deals with it.
- As much detail as possible will be supplied when reporting an accident
- Information about injuries will also be kept in the pupil's educational record
- Records held in the first aid and accident book will be retained by the school for a minimum of 3 years, in accordance with regulation 25 of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979, and then securely disposed of.

17.2 Reporting to the Health and Safety Executive

The welfare assistant will keep a record of any accident to pupils or staff, that results in a reportable injury, disease, or dangerous occurrence as defined in the RIDDOR 2013 legislation (regulations 4, 5, 6 and 7).

The welfare assistant will report these to the Health and Safety Executive via Enfield local authority's online reporting system (CLASS) as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within 10 days of the incident.

Reportable injuries, diseases or dangerous occurrences include:

- Death
- Specified injuries. These are:
 - Fractures, other than to fingers, thumbs and toes
 - Amputations
 - Any injury likely to lead to permanent loss of sight or reduction in sight
 - Any crush injury to the head or torso causing damage to the brain or internal organs
 - Serious burns (including scalding)

- Any scalping requiring hospital treatment
- Any loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia

17.3 Notifying parents

The school will inform parents of any accident or injury sustained by a pupil and any first aid treatment given, on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable.

18. Training

Our staff are provided with health and safety training as part of their induction process.

Staff who work with pupils with special educational needs (SEN), are given additional health and safety training as appropriate.

19. Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed by the deputy head every year.

At every review, the policy will be approved by the governing body.

20. Links with other policies

This health and safety policy links to the following policies:

- First aid
- Risk assessment
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Intimate Care
- Accessibility plan
- Emergency or critical incident plan

Appendix 1. Recommended absence period for preventing the spread of infection

This list of recommended absence periods for preventing the spread of infection is taken from non-statutory guidance for schools and other childcare settings from the UK Health Security Agency. For each of these infections or complaints, there [is further information in the guidance on the symptoms, how it spreads and some 'dos and don'ts' to follow that you can check](#).

In confirmed cases of infectious disease, including COVID-19, we will follow the recommended self-isolation period based on government guidance.

Infection or complaint	Recommended period to be kept away from school or nursery
Athlete's foot	None.
Campylobacter	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
Chicken pox (shingles)	Cases of chickenpox are generally infectious from 2 days before the rash appears to 5 days after the onset of rash. Although the usual exclusion period is 5 days, all lesions should be crusted over before children return to nursery or school. A person with shingles is infectious to those who have not had chickenpox and should be excluded from school if the rash is weeping and cannot be covered or until the rash is dry and crusted over.
Cold sores	None.
Respiratory infections including coronavirus (COVID-19)	Children and young people should not attend if they have a high temperature and are unwell. Anyone with a positive test result for COVID-19 should not attend the setting for 3 days after the day of the test.
Rubella (German measles)	5 days from appearance of the rash.
Hand, foot and mouth	Children are safe to return to school or nursery as soon as they are feeling better, there is no need to stay off until the blisters have all healed.
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted and healed, or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.
Measles	Cases are infectious from 4 days before onset of rash to 4 days after, so it is important to ensure cases are excluded from school during this period.
Ringworm	Exclusion not needed once treatment has started.
Scabies	The infected child or staff member should be excluded until after the first treatment has been carried out.
Scarlet fever	Children can return to school 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment. If no antibiotics have been administered, the person will be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. If there is an outbreak of scarlet fever at the school or nursery, the health protection team will assist with letters and a factsheet to send to parents or carers and staff.
Slapped cheek syndrome, Parvovirus B19, Fifth's disease	None (not infectious by the time the rash has developed).

Bacillary Dysentery (Shigella)	Microbiological clearance is required for some types of shigella species prior to the child or food handler returning to school.
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting (Gastroenteritis)	Children and adults with diarrhoea or vomiting should be excluded until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped and they are well enough to return. If medication is prescribed, ensure that the full course is completed and there is no further diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours after the course is completed. For some gastrointestinal infections, longer periods of exclusion from school are required and there may be a need to obtain microbiological clearance. For these groups, your local health protection team, school health adviser or environmental health officer will advise. If a child has been diagnosed with cryptosporidium, they should NOT go swimming for 2 weeks following the last episode of diarrhoea.
Cryptosporidiosis	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
E. coli (verocytotoxigenic or VTEC)	The standard exclusion period is until 48 hours after symptoms have resolved. However, some people pose a greater risk to others and may be excluded until they have a negative stool sample (for example, pre-school infants, food handlers, and care staff working with vulnerable people). The health protection team will advise in these instances.
Food poisoning	Until 48 hours from the last episode of vomiting and diarrhoea and they are well enough to return. Some infections may require longer periods (local health protection team will advise).
Salmonella	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fever	Seek advice from environmental health officers or the local health protection team.
Flu (influenza)	Until recovered.
Tuberculosis (TB)	Pupils and staff with infectious TB can return to school after 2 weeks of treatment if well enough to do so and as long as they have responded to anti-TB therapy. Pupils and staff with non-pulmonary TB do not require exclusion and can return to school as soon as they are well enough.
Whooping cough (pertussis)	A child or staff member should not return to school until they have had 48 hours of appropriate treatment with antibiotics and they feel well enough to do so, or 21 days from onset of illness if no antibiotic treatment.
Conjunctivitis	None.
Giardia	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
Glandular fever	None (can return once they feel well).
Head lice	None.
Hepatitis A	Exclude cases from school while unwell or until 7 days after the onset of jaundice (or onset of symptoms if no jaundice, or if under 5, or where hygiene is poor. There is no need to exclude well, older children with good hygiene who will have been much more infectious prior to diagnosis.

Hepatitis B	Acute cases of hepatitis B will be too ill to attend school and their doctors will advise when they can return. Do not exclude chronic cases of hepatitis B or restrict their activities. Similarly, do not exclude staff with chronic hepatitis B infection. Contact your local health protection team for more advice if required.
Hepatitis C	None.
Meningococcal meningitis/ septicaemia	If the child has been treated and has recovered, they can return to school.
Meningitis	Once the child has been treated (if necessary) and has recovered, they can return to school. No exclusion is needed.
Meningitis viral	None.
MRSA (meticillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus)	None.
Mumps	5 days after onset of swelling (if well).
Threadworm	None.
Rotavirus	Until 48 hours after symptoms have subsided.