

More Serious Conditions

There is no reason for your child to be absent from school for minor ailments such as;

- Athlete's Foot
- Ringworm
- Cold Sores
- Slap Cheek
- Conjunctivitis
- Sore Throat
- Hand, Foot & Mouth
- Threadworms
- Head Lice
- Tonsillitis
- Period Pains
- Warts & Verrucae

You should however seek treatment for the above ailments. Medical advice can be sought in relation to minor ailments from most pharmacies.

More detailed advice and information on these illnesses can be found under 'Guidance on infection control in school and other child care settings' HSC Public Health Agency.

Absence for long periods of time

If your child is absent from school due to illness for more than three days, or is often absent for short periods, you may be asked for supporting evidence (appointment cards etc.) to confirm the absence. If your child is frequently ill, the school may be able to offer additional support and advice. If your child has had ten days absence in any one half term you may be asked to attend a meeting in school to discuss this.

Asthma. If your child has been diagnosed with asthma you will need to inform the school. It is the parent/ carer's responsibility to ensure their child has an inhaler in school, labelled with their name and that it is not out of date. Please complete Health Care Plan available from the school office.

Broken Bones. School can often make arrangements, following medical advice to support children attending school with broken bones. Please contact the school office to discuss this.

Eczema. Children with Eczema can attend school even whilst being treated. Children should only be absent from school on the advice of the GP when the eczema is severe.

Glandular Fever. This infection is not caught by day to day contact, therefore your child does not need to stay away from school unless they feel too unwell to go.

Impetigo. If your child has, or you suspect they have impetigo you must seek medical advice and keep your child away from school until the sores have scabbed over, or 48 hours after starting medication.

Raised Temperature. You can usually identify a raised temperature through your child looking or feeling shivery. There are lots of reasons for a raised temperature and if symptoms persist you should seek medical attention. As soon as your child is feeling better they can return to school.

Allergies. If your child has been diagnosed with an allergy you will need to inform the school. It is the parent/ carer's responsibility to ensure their child has their Epi Pen at school and that it is not out of date. Please complete Health Care Plan available from the school office

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SCHOOL ABSENCE

GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

Medical Appointments and Illness

Informing School of Minor Illness

Inform the school before 9.30am on every day your child is absent from school due to illness or a Medical Appointment

It is helpful if you let the school know the nature of the illness to prevent it being spread to others in the school. On your child's return to school you should inform them of their return and confirm the reason for absence. Medical evidence may be requested to support your child's absence (appointment card, medication, prescription etc.)

Contact Details for Reporting Absences:

School Office (8.15am -4.30pm)

☎ **01453 823108**

✉ **admin@park-jun.gloucs.sch.uk**

If you are concerned about any aspect of your child's health you should consult a health professional. Advice can be obtained from NHS 111, your local chemist, walk in centre or GP.

Special Consideration in School

You need to inform school if your child has had hospital or surgical treatment and is returning to school with stitches or a plaster cast or if they need to restrict their Physical Education lessons, playtimes and lunchtimes. If your child has an on-going illness you may be required to come into school to discuss this, set up a care plan or discuss a referral for Hospital Education.

Prescribed Medication

If your child is taking prescribed medication or needs medication such as paracetamol syrup etc. with parent/carers permission we will administer the medication at the stated time. Parent/carers (not children) must bring the medication to the school office in its original container and sign a permission form. For children on long term medication we will ask you to complete a Health Care Plan.

School Contact Details

You need to make sure school has your current contact details including your work, home and mobile telephone number and also an emergency contact. It is important that school is able to contact you during the day if necessary.

Frequent absence is a serious problem for pupils, as often much of the work they miss is not made up, leaving these pupils at a significant disadvantage for the remainder of their school career. There is a clear link between poor school attendance and low levels of achievement. Your help and support is required to address this problem as quickly as possible.

At present the main reason for pupil absence from school is illness. When deciding whether or not your child is too unwell to attend school ask yourself the following questions;

- ❖ Is my child well enough to do the activities of the school day?
- ❖ Does my child have a condition that could be passed on to other children or school staff?
- ❖ Would I take a day off if I had this condition?

Think carefully before keeping your child away from school for medical reasons. If they wake up saying they are unwell, consider whether the symptoms they have mean they need to stay at home. Do not keep your child away from school 'just in case' when they could be in class learning with their friends.

If your child requires a medical appointment these should be made outside school hours wherever possible. However, if your child has an appointment during school time then you need to send in an appointment card or letter or telephone the school in advance so that your child's absence can be authorised.

Common conditions

If your child is ill, it is likely to be due to one of a few minor conditions. Whether you choose to send your child to school will depend on how severe you think the illness is.

This guidance may assist you.

Chicken Pox

Children should be kept at home for 5 days from the onset of the rash.

Coughs, colds

A child with a minor cough or cold may attend school. If the cold is accompanied by a raised temperature, shivers or drowsiness, they should stay at home and you should seek medical advice.

Earache

Medical advice should be sought.

Headache

A child with a headache does not normally need to be absent from school. If the headache is more severe and accompanied by other symptoms you should seek medical advice.

Rashes

Rashes can be the first sign of many infectious diseases. If your child has a rash, check with a pharmacist, practice nurse or GP before sending them to school.

Toothache

School attendance should be maintained until your child can be seen by a dentist.

Vomiting and/or diarrhoea

Children with these symptoms should be kept at home for 24 hours after their symptoms have gone. If symptoms persist or reoccur medical advice should be sought.