

Stay at Home if Unwell Policy

1 Purpose

This policy outlines procedures to be followed in the event of a student illness. As illnesses are diverse in nature it will not be able to cover all eventualities. Making sure a child attends school is the legal responsibility of parents/guardians. It is also crucial for a child's education and future. The Sheffield Private School Health Clinic strictly follows the Dubai Health Authority's (School Health Department) guidelines.

2 Scope

This policy is for parents and staff. We ask parents to plan for childcare ahead of time so children have a safe and comfortable space to go if they are unwell.

Please make sure:

- Is your child well enough to carry out the activities of the school day? If not, keep your child at home.
- Does your child have a condition that could be passed on to other children or school staff? If so keep your child home.

3 Common Conditions

Most illnesses can be classified as one of a few minor health conditions. Whether or not you send your child to school will depend on how severe you judge the illness to be. This guidance can help you to make that judgement. If you're concerned about your child's health, please consult a health professional.

To minimise the risk of transmission of infection to other student and staff, the following guidelines are suggested:

DISEASE/ILLNESS	MINIMAL EXCLUSION PERIOD
Fever	Until there has been no fever for 24 hours. In the present situation child should be taken to the clinic/hospital for further evaluation by a doctor.
Diarrhoea/vomiting/stomach pain	Children with these conditions should be kept off school. They can return 48 hours after their symptoms have settled. In the present situation further evaluation is needed (should be taken to clinic/hospital).

Sore throat	When child feels well/Until there has been no complaints for 24 hours. In the present situation the child should be taken to the clinic/ hospital and should be assessed by a doctor.
Cough and cold	If the cold is accompanied by shivers or drowsiness, the child should stay off school and return to school 24hours after they are feeling better. If your child has a more severe and long lasting cough, consult your GP. In the present situation, cough and cold should be evaluated by a doctor even if it is mild.
Chicken pox and shingles	Excluded from the school until vesicles become dry/10 days after the onset of the rash. Immunocompromised children/adults must take separate advice from GP. The child should be taken to the doctor for further evaluation.
Conjunctivitis/sore eyes	Child should stay away if eye is discharging until treated for 24 hours and/or eyes appear normal again. Also should be taken to a clinic and should be evaluated by a doctor.
Allergic rash	Until there has been no symptoms for hours.
German measles (Rubella) or measles	5 days from onset of rash/medical certificate of recovery from infection
Impetigo	Until sores have fully healed, or if necessary the student could come back earlier if exposed sores are covered with occlusive dressing. To be taken for further evaluation.
Mumps	9 days from onset of swollen glands/ medical certificate of recovery from infection. Should need further evaluation and should be taken to a clinic/ hospital.
Scabies	Until full recovery from itching. Medical fitness certificate is required for re-joining.

Scarlet fever	When child feels well and 48 hours after antibiotics. In the present situation further evaluation needed.
An infected sore or wound	Sealed dressing or plaster with proper medication
Head lice	For 5 days after the case is diagnosed, provided that the appropriate shampoo is being used for the student and his family
COVID 19 infection	<p>If child has fever, body ache, headache, running nose, dry cough, breathlessness, nausea, loss of taste or smell, then immediately take the child to a hospital. In a suspected case, the RT-PCR test should be done. The patient should not return to school until the COVID PCR result is obtained.</p> <p>If the result is negative and there is a clinical assessment of a probable COVID-19 case, the patient should complete 14-day quarantine. If the result is negative and there is no clinical assessment for a probable case, the child can resume schooling so long as they are symptom-free.</p> <p>The school should follow-up with the parent/staff for the PCR result and if the result is positive for COVID-19, it should be notified to DHA. The traced contacts of the patient, including teachers along with the classmates of the student, or colleagues are all considered close contacts (anyone who spent more than 15 minutes in a proximity of 2 metres with the positive case, from the day of symptoms onset, or the day of the positive PCR test) should commence the 14-day quarantine counted PCR from the day of the positive test, or from the day of the onset of symptoms.</p>

4 Students Who Become Unwell at School

If a student becomes ill at school, every effort will be made to contact their parents/guardians and failing that, their emergency contacts. It is therefore important to keep the school informed of any changes to home/mobile nos.

If the student has complains of headache, running nose, body pain, throat pain, cough, breathlessness or loss of sense of taste and smell, the student would be kept in the isolation room and would be evaluated.

Parents would be informed to come and pick up the student. The student may be taken to a clinic/hospital for further evaluation. The school personnel will follow up with the parents about the student.

In the event of a student having an injury during school hours, the school clinic will assess the severity of the injury and make the decision to apply first aid if appropriate. Any significant injury or accident will be reported to the parent immediately and on occasions where a prompt response is required, the school may take the decision to take the student to the Government Hospital where they will meet up with parents. If appropriate, and the severity demands, the school will call an ambulance or take the student directly to the Rashid Hospital in Dubai.

In this time of the COVID- 19 pandemic, if the student has fever or cough, watering nose, sneezing, respiratory difficulty, headache, vomiting, diarrhoea or loss of taste or smell, do not send the child to school. If the symptoms are suggestive of a susceptible COVID- 19 condition, or your child had contact with a COVID positive case, please take the student to the hospital for necessary action and follow the treating doctor's instructions.

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