



Policy And Procedure Title: School Illness Policy

Code	Effective Date	Edition No	Last Revision Date	Next Revision Date
SCS A/013/20/09/17	27/09/2017	07	01/10/2024	01/10/2025

Introduction

It is the policy of the school to encourage and promote good health and hygiene for all children attending the school. This includes the monitoring of children for signs and symptoms of communicable diseases such as Chicken Pox, Mumps, Meningitis, Rubella (German measles), Measles.

When a child becomes ill, it is the policy to exclude them as soon as is practicable to reduce the possibility of cross-infection. If a child is ill, then the parent will be contacted and asked to come and collect them as soon as possible. The time of the exclusion will vary with the cause, and the following guideline has been laid down by Dubai Health Authority. It must, however, be recognized that each case will be considered individually, and the severity of symptoms may be an influencing factor.

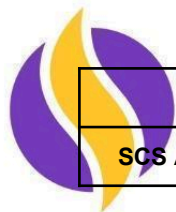
Amendments to the Illness policy

- Parents should ensure the good health of their children and others by following basic rules – To keep children at home who suffer from any contagious illness like Chicken pox, Hand – Foot – Mouth disease, Conjunctivitis, Measles, Mumps, and Scarlet Fever etc. If parents are unsure whether a child should be kept home, please contact the School Clinic for clarification.
- In case sickness is observed at school, Parents will be immediately contacted to collect their child from school.
- Students are sent home when they are sick. Parents are requested to keep sick children at home as per the school exclusion policy. If the child is sick, please inform the school as well as submit a sick note from your doctor to the class teacher.
- It is the responsibility of parents to submit vaccination records and keep the school updated on any changes. If a child is undergoing any medical treatment (such as an antibiotic course or any regular therapy), please inform the School Clinic so that we are aware should any issues that arise during the School day.
- Parents should provide a medical certificate or prescription for an absence of three or more consecutive days to declare an authorised medical absence. As per the DHA guidelines, the school clinic will notify parents of two or more confirmed cases in a same-year group.

For reference from the DHA School Clinic Regulations Policy, please follow the link:

<https://services.dha.gov.ae/sheryan/wps/portal/home/circular-details?circularRefNo=CIR-2024-00000143&isPublicCircular=1&fromHome=true>





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Disease Or Condition	Incubation Period (Approximately)	Exclusion of Cases	Exclusion of Contacts
Acute Amoebic dysentery (Amoebiasis)	Range from 2 – 4 weeks	Exclude until diarrhea has resolved for at least 24 hours (without anti-diarrheal medications)	Not excluded
Chickenpox	Range from 10 to 21 days; (usually 14-16 days)	Exclude from school until all vesicles become crusted & dry, or until no new lesions appear within a 24-hour, (an average range of 4-7 days from appearance of rash).	Not excluded.
Coronaviruses (SARS, MERS, COVID-19)	Range from 2-14 days	Exclude until medical certificate of recovery is produced (Subject to the current guidelines)	Subject to the current National authority guidelines
Conjunctivitis		Until discharge from eyes has ceased	Not excluded
Diarrheal illness - unspecified		Exclude until symptoms (diarrhoea/ vomiting) has resolved for at least 24 hours (without anti-diarrheal medications)	Not excluded
Diarrheal illness -viral (Adeno/ Noro/ Rotavirus)	Varies with pathogen (usually from 12 hours to 4 days)	Exclude until symptoms (diarrhea/ vomiting) has resolved for at least 24 hours (without anti-diarrheal medications)	Not excluded
Diarrheal illness Bacterial (shigella, Non typhoidal salmonella, campylobacter)	Varies with pathogen (usually from 10 hours to 7 days)	Exclude until symptoms (diarrhea/ vomiting) has resolved for at least 24 hours (without anti-diarrheal medications)	Not excluded
Diphtheria	Two to five days	Until cultures are negative, until receipt of a medical certificate of recovery from infection.	Domiciliary contacts are excluded until investigated by medial officer and shown to be clear of infection.
Glandular fever (Epstein-Barr Virus)	Approximately 4 – 8 weeks	Exclusion from school is not necessary	Not excluded





Diarrheal disease- Giardiasis Range from 1 to 4 weeks (usually 7 to 10 days)

Exclude until symptoms (diarrhea/ vomiting) has resolved for at least 24 hours (without anti-diarrheal medications)

Not excluded

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Hand, Foot and Mouth disease	Usually 3 – 6 days	Exclude until all blisters have dried.	Not excluded.
Haemophilus (Hib) influenza type b	Range from 2 – 4 days	Exclude until the person has received appropriate antibiotic treatment for at least four days.	Not excluded.
Hepatitis A	Range from 15 – 50 days; usually 28-30 days	Exclude until a medical certificate of recovery is received, and until 7 days after the onset of jaundice or illness.	Not excluded.
Hepatitis B	Range from 60 to 150 days; Usually ninety days	Acute illness: Exclusion until recovered from acute attack. Chronic illness: Not Exclusion	Not excluded.
Human immuno-deficiency virus	Usually one to four weeks	Exclusion is not necessary.	Not excluded.
Impetigo	The incubation period Varies according to the causative organism It is usually one to three days for streptococcal infections and four to ten days for staphylococcal infections	Exclude until lesions are crusted and healed. The child may be allowed to return earlier provided that appropriate treatment has commenced and that sores on exposed surfaces must be properly covered with water-proof dressings	Not excluded.
Influenza/ influenza illnesses	Usually 1 to 4 days	Exclude until at least 24 hours after fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medicines.	Not excluded
Leprosy		Exclude until receipt of a medical certificate of recovery from infection.	Not excluded

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success for today and to be prepared for tomorrow.

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 Measles	Range from 7 – 23 days from exposure to symptom onset; Usually 10-14 days	Exclude for at least 4 days after the onset of rash. Or until medical certificate of recovery from illness is received	Immunized contacts not excluded.
Meningitis (viral, bacteria – other than meningococcal meningitis)	Varies according to the causative organism	Exclude until well.	Not excluded.
Mumps	Range from 12 - 25 to days; commonly parottitis develops 16 - 18 days	Exclude for 9 days after the onset of swelling OR until this swelling resolved.	Not excluded.

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Pediculosis (Head lice)		Exclude until appropriate treatment has commenced. Note: Rescreening is needed 7-10 days after initial treatments, to inspect hair for live crawling lice.	Not excluded
Pertussis (whooping cough)	Usually 7 to 10 days after infection, but may also appear up to 21 days later	Excluded 21 days after the onset of cough & illness if no antibiotic treatment is given OR until they have completed 5 days of a course of recommended antibiotic treatment. AND receipt of a medical certificate of recovery from infection;	If the household contacts have not previously had whooping cough or vaccination against whooping cough; they must be excluded from attending a school for twenty one days after last exposure to infection OR until they have completed 5 days of a course of an appropriate antibiotic
Rubella (German measles)	Range from 12 – 23 days; usually 17 days.	Exclude until fully recovered or for at least seven days after the onset of rash.	Not excluded Note: Female staff of child-bearing age should ensure that their immune status against rubella is adequate.
Streptococcal infection (including scarlet fever)	Range from two to five days	Exclude the child has received appropriate antibiotic therapy for at least 24 hours and after the fever has resolved for 24 hours (without the use of	Not excluded





SAFA COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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		fever-reducing medicines); OR until receipt of a medical certificate of recovery from infection, which is issued when	
Tuberculosis (excluding latent tuberculosis)	It takes about 4-12 weeks from infection to a demonstrable primary lesion or positive skin test reaction	Exclude until receipt of a medical certificate from the health officer of the Department, that the child is not considered to be infectious.	Not excluded.
Typhoid fever/paratyphoid fever	For typhoid fever ranges from 6–30 days; usually 8–14 days (but this depends on the infective dose) For paratyphoid fever is usually 1–10 days.	Exclude until receipt of a medical certificate of recovery from infection.	Not excluded unless the health authorities consider exclusion to be necessary.

This is not exhaustive, and other illnesses may occur from time to time. Consultation with the medical team should be undertaken for all children.

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