



# Attendance Guidance for Parents



Children are at the heart of everything we do. *Through Christian values, relationships and living and learning together* we celebrate the uniqueness and

diversity of everyone in our family. *We nurture a sense of self belief, mutual respect and belonging* to build the foundations for *happy and successful life-long learning.*

This guidance is a summary of our Attendance Policy with some added support and advice to support good attendance which is vital for your child to successfully flourish in all areas of school life.

### **What do I have to do if my child is absent...**

- Call the school office as soon as possible – 0121 622 2151 or email the school office on [stthomas@allsaintsmat.school](mailto:stthomas@allsaintsmat.school).
- Tell us why your child is absent and when they may return. If they are absent for more than one day, keep us informed.

**REMEMBER TO ENSURE THAT WE HAVE UP TO DATE CONTACT DETAILS FOR AT LEAST TWO PEOPLE.**

### **Is my child too ill for school?**



#### **Coughs and colds...**

It is fine to send your child to school with a cough or a common cold. If they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.



#### **High temperature...**

If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.



#### **Chickenpox...**

If your child has chickenpox keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually around five days after they appear.



#### **Cold sores...**

You do not need to keep them off school. Encourage them not to touch the blister or to kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups or towels.



### **Conjunctivitis...**

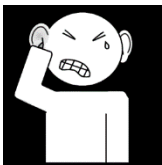
You do not need to keep your child off school. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands thoroughly and regularly.



### **Covid 19...**

If your child has mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough, and feels well enough, they can go to school. You should keep your child off school if they have a high temperature and do not feel well enough to do normal activities.

You are no longer required to do Covid 19 lateral flow test if they have symptoms. However, if your child has tested positive, they should try and stay at home and avoid contact with other people for three days from when the test was taken.



### **Ear infection...**

If your child has severe earache or a high temperature, keep them off school until they are feeling better, or their temperature returns to normal.



### **Hand, foot and mouth disease...**

If your child appears well enough to go to school, then they should continue to attend. Please do inform us though.



### **Head lice and nits...**

There is no need to keep them off school. Please do inform us though.



### **Impetigo...**

If your child has impetigo, they will need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed or for 48 hours after they started the antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like cups and towels with other children at school.



### **Measles...**

If you think your child has measles, you will need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least four days after the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is not vaccinated, pregnant or has a weakened immune system.



### **Ringworm...**

If your child has ringworm, see a pharmacist, unless it is on their scalp, in which case you see a GP. It is fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment. Please do let us know though.



### **Scarlet fever...**

If your child has scarlet fever they will need treatment from a GP, otherwise they will be infectious for two to three weeks. They can return to school 24 hours after starting treatment.



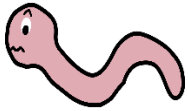
### **Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease) ...**

You do not need to keep your child off school because, once the rash appears, they are no longer infectious. Please do let us know though.



### Sore throat...

You can still send your child to school with a sore throat but if they also have a high temperature they should stay at home. A sore throat with a high temperature could be tonsillitis.



### Threadworms...

You do not need to keep your child off if they have threadworms. Speak to a pharmacist who can recommend a treatment. Please let us know.



### Vomiting and diarrhoea...

You should keep your child off school for at least 2 days (48 hours). Vomiting and diarrhoea spreads very quickly in a school.

### Think about...

If your child is absent from school, they will miss out on learning that is difficult to catch up.

Attendance percentage	Lessons missed	Time missed
95%	50	10 days (two weeks)
90%	100	4 weeks
85%	150	Almost 6 weeks
80%	200	Just over 7 weeks (half a term)
75%	250	Almost 9 weeks

If your child misses the start of the day, they can miss important opportunities to prepare for the day and be ready to learn.

Minutes late per day	Equivalent of missing
5 minutes	3.4 days a year
10 minutes	6.9 school days
15 minutes	10.3 school days
20 minutes	13.8 school days
30 minutes	20.7 school days

It is important for all children to have a positive start to every school day. Late arriving pupils can disrupt this routine and can cause the child arriving

late to be embarrassed and feeling negative. Class teachers will often use the registration time to recap important learning, which if missed can impact on the rest of the day.

The school day starts at 8:35am and finishes at 3:15pm.

If you arrive after 8.50am and the gate is locked, please bring your child to the office.

If you are struggling with attendance, please do tell us...we will support you in every way we can.



Faith



Friendship



Love



Trust