

Sick Child Policy



SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

St Catharine's Primary School provides an inclusive Catholic education, expressing love of and trust in Jesus. We empower individuals to

“Let Their Light Shine”

(Matthew 5:16) through courage, compassion and community.

Approved by:	Teaching and Learning Committee
Operational review by:	Joanne Welch (Headteacher)
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Next review due:	1 September 2027

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Introduction

At St. Catharine's Catholic Primary School, we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and we expect everyone connected with this school to share this commitment.

We have a duty to ensure the health and well being of all children in order for them to be successful learners in a learning environment that is clean, healthy and safe for everyone. Therefore, it is our responsibility to deal with all children who become sick at school in a kind and caring manner.

We believe that if a child is displaying signs of illness then a parent/carer has a duty not to send their child to school. Likewise school personnel have a duty to assess the condition of any child who is thought to be unwell and to contact the parent/carer requesting the child should be taken home.

We are aware that all children are subject to coughs and colds at sometime and these should not prevent them from attending school. But we do ask parents/carers not to send their children to school if they are showing signs of vomiting, diarrhoea, any type of rash, conjunctivitis, flu, chicken-pox, mumps, measles or high temperature.

We recognise the importance of working closely with parents/carers and we believe we have good lines of communication in place but in order to ensure the health and well being of all children everyone must be aware of their role and responsibilities when a child is displaying signs of illness.

We believe it is only correct for a child suffering from an infectious or contagious disease to be excluded from school until they are fully recovered. We have a duty of care for all pupils and school personnel and, therefore, we request parents to consult with their GP before their child returns to school and if need be we will seek advice from the Local Health Authority.

All members of the school community need to abide by the instructions in the current COVID Risk Assessment.

Aims

- To have in place procedures to deal with all children who become ill at school.

Responsibility for the policy and procedure

Role of the governing body

The Governing Body has:

- delegated powers and responsibilities to the head teacher to put into place procedures to ensure sick children are identified and are cared for appropriately;
- delegated powers and responsibilities to the head teacher to ensure all school personnel of the school are aware of and comply with this policy;

- responsibility for ensuring funding is in place to support this policy;
- responsibility for ensuring this policy and all policies are maintained and updated regularly;
- responsibility for ensuring all policies are made available to parents on request;
- responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.

Role of the head teacher

The head teacher will:

- protect the health and safety of children and school personnel always;
- ensure all school personnel, pupils and parents are aware of and comply with this policy;
- ensure school personnel and parents are aware of this policy;
- monitor the effectiveness of this policy;
- update the COVID Risk assessment when guidance changes.
- annually report to the Governing Body on the success and development of this policy.

Role of the school business manager

The School Business Manager will:

- organise first aid training for appropriate school personnel;
- ensure that children's records and emergency contact numbers are kept up to date;
- ensure procedures are in place and effectively implemented to deal with children taken ill at school;
- provide guidance, support and training to all staff;
- immediately contact the child's parents/carers to share school concerns about the child's health.

Role of school personnel

School personnel will:

- comply with all aspects of this policy
- receive training in first aid at their induction, if required for their role, and will attend periodic training to renew their first aid qualification;
- assess the condition of any child thought to be unwell in a kind and caring manner;
- notify the school office of any child taken ill;
- ensure the comfort of an ill child by staying with them while awaiting the parents to arrive;
- seek immediate medical advice if a child is in danger;
- call for an ambulance as and when necessary;
- immediately contact the child's parents;
- escort a child to hospital in the absence of a child's parents;
- ensure records are kept of all children taken ill and sent home while at school;
- report any concerns they have on any aspect of the school community.

Role of pupils

Pupils will:

- be aware of and comply with this policy.

Role of parents/carers

Parents/carers must:

- be aware of this policy;
- comply with this policy;
- notify the school of any changes to their contact details;
- co-operate with the school by keeping their child at home if they are unwell or showing any signs of vomiting, diarrhoea, any type of rash, conjunctivitis, flu, chicken-pox, mumps, measles or high temperature;
- consult with their GP if their child is suffering from one of the communicable diseases;
- inform the school if their child is not their normal self when brought to school but is not showing any signs of illness;

Raising awareness of this policy

We will raise awareness of this policy via:

- the school website;
- meetings with parents such as introductory, transition, parent-teacher consultations and periodic curriculum workshops;
- school events;
- meetings with school personnel;
- communications with home such as newsletters;
- Head teacher reports to the Governing Body;

Training

We ensure all school personnel have equal chances of training, career development and promotion.

Monitoring the effectiveness of the policy

The practical application of this policy will be reviewed annually or when the need arises.

Linked policies

- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy

- Administering Medicines Policy
- Medical & First Aid Policy
- Health & Safety Policy

