Medical Evidence

In most cases, absences for illness which has been reported following the school's absence reporting procedures, will be authorised unless the school has a valid reason to believe that the illness is not genuine.

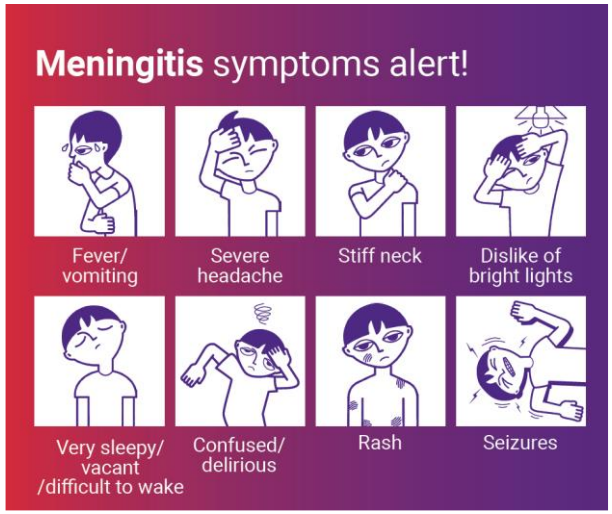
We may, where necessary, request medical evidence before authorising an absence. When we ask for medical evidence, this means we require sight of:

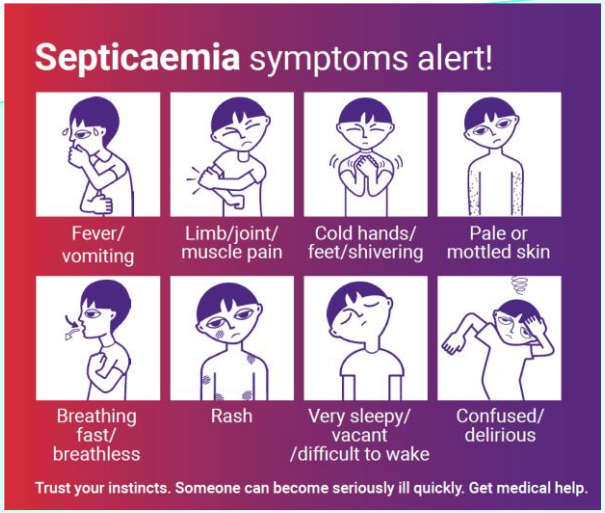
- A doctor's appointment card providing the date and time of the appointment
- A prescription issued on the date of the absence.

Only in very rare cases will we ask for a letter from the GP. However, we may occasionally ask for permission to contact your child's GP directly if there are ongoing concerns over illness and absence.

Medical Appointments

Parent/Carers should try to make appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. Where appointments during school hours are unavoidable, children should be absent for as short a period of time as possible (ideally appointments should be after 3pm to minimize the amount of learing being missed) For all appointmnets during school time, the school office must be provided with sight of or a copy of the appointment card or letter.





meningitis.org

Free helpline
080 8800 3344

Reg. Charity England & Wales No 1091105 & Scotland No SC037586 Reg. Office: Newminster House, Baldwin Street, Bristol BS1 1LT

Illness and attending school.



Information and advice to help you decide whether your child is well enough to attend school

CONTACT US

Tel: 0117 903 0077
Email: airballoonhillp@bristol-schools.uk
www.abhps.com

Absence Line: 0117 903 0077 (option 1)

Illness and School Attendance

Attendance at school is vital if pupils are to reach their full potential. Too often, children stay at home when they have a minor illness and they miss out on learning and social experiences.

If your child is very ill, it is important that you seek medical advice – either through your GP, Minor Illness Nurse, Pharmasist or by contacting NHS Direct on 111

If your child has a minor illness, often they can manage in school and actually feel better being in school, learning with their friends. Please remember that we have lots of qualified First Aiders in school and a fully-staffed Welfare Room where your child can go if they feel unwell during the day.

If your child is unwell during the day, a First Aider will contact you and discuss with you if they need to go home, or, if you should bring in some medication to help relieve their symptoms (for example, Calpol or Ibroprofen).

Our staff are also trained to be able to administer medications which have been prescribed by a Doctor. If you need us to support with the administration of medications during the day, please pop into the Welfare Room to see a member of staff.

Remember, if your child is unwell in the morning, they can always come into school later, or after lunch if they feel better.

This leaflet is designed to give you some information about managing minor complaints and will help you to decide if your child can come to school.

We know that children are sometimes too ill to come to school. To help you to decide if your child is too ill to attend, ask yourself these questions:

1. **Is your child well enough to go out and play?**
2. **Is your child well enough to carry out their normal daily school activities?**

*If you answered **No**, then we would advise you to seek medical advice.*

3. **Does your child have a condition that can be passed on to other children?**
4. **Would you take a day off work if you had the same symptoms or condition?**

*If you answers **Yes**, then we would advise you to seek medical advice.*

"I don't feel well…"

If your child has:

- Headache
- Earache
- Stomachache
- Cough
- Cold
- Sore Throat
- Period Pain

Try giving your child over-the-counter medication in the morning (for example Calpol or Ibruprofen). If their symptoms improve, bring them into school and we can monitor them during the day and call you if necessary.

Common Conditions:

Colds & Flu

If your child has a cough, cold or sore throat, they can be sent to school. If your child has a high temperature, you could provide paracetamol or equivalent, and plenty to drink. If your child feels better after that, bring them into school.

If your child's high temperature continues for 3 days or more, seek medical advice. If your child is asthmatic, remember that they may need their blue inhaler more often.

If your child has flu (diagnosed by a GP), they should stay home and return to school when they are recovered.

Sickness / Diarrhoea

Is the sickness a one-off? Perhaps due to worry or eating something bad? If so, then it may not be necessary to keep them off school. Please call the school office to discuss.

Is the sickness a diarrhora/vomiting bug? If so, then pupils must stay off school for 48 hours following the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea. If symptoms persist for 3 or more days, seek medical advice.

Chickenpox

Pupils must stay off school until the spots have all crusted over (usually 5 days). If your child has Chickenpox, please make sure the school office is aware so that they can notify any pregnant staff.

Scarlet Fever

Children can return to school 24 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment.

Headlice

Pupils can return to school as soon as their hair has been treated, to prevent further spreading. Please notify the school office if your child has nits, so that a text can be sent out to other parents.

Impetigo

Children can return to school 48 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment or once the lesions are crusted over.