Hampton Court House

Sick Child and Exclusion for Illness Policy

Last Updated: May 2026

Next Review: May 2027

Sick Child and Exclusion for Illness Policy at Hampton Court House School and Hampton Court House Early Years (hereafter known as "the setting").

1. It is the setting's responsibility to keep children safe, to promote good health, to avoid the spread of infection and to take appropriate action if children become ill.

2. The setting understands the needs of working parents and does not aim to exclude children unnecessarily. However, to maintain a healthy environment for all children we ask that parents do not bring their child to the setting if they are sick or are displaying signs of being unwell. This will ensure children are receiving the most suitable care, (e.g. parents are able to take the child to the doctor if necessary), and it protects other children and adults, including those with reduced immunity, from preventable infections.

3. Children arriving with or that develop any of the following symptoms during the day, will be excluded for the period recommended by the Public Health England or until fully recovered:
    a. Flu-like symptoms
    b. Diarrhoea and or/vomiting
    c. A temperature of 101°F/38°C or higher
    d. Unusual spots or rashes on the skin, which may or may not include itching with a fever
    e. Sore throat with fever and swollen glands
    f. Headache or stiff neck, when accompanied by a high temperature
    g. Severe cough (child gets red or blue in the face and makes a high-pitched whoop after cough)
    h. Yellowish skin or eyes
    i. Child is irritable, continuously crying, or requires more attention than the setting can provide without risking the health and safety of other children.

If a child becomes unwell whilst in the setting

4. If children appear unwell during the day – have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – the receptionist calls the parents and asks them to collect the child or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.

5. If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing, sponging their heads with cool water, but kept away from draughts.

6. Temperature is taken using a digital ear thermometer (kept near the first aid box).

7. In extreme cases of emergency, the child should be taken to the nearest hospital and the parent informed by a member of staff.

8. Parents are asked to take their child to the doctor before returning them to the setting; the setting can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.

9. Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to the setting.

10. After diarrhoea, parents are asked to keep children home for 48 hours or until a formed stool is passed.

11. The setting has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. Information is available from www.patient.co.uk

Sars-Cov2 :(Coronavirus Covid-19)

12. If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering, please refer to the latest NHS guidance

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'

13. If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering from a notifiable disease under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988, the GP will report this to Public Health England.
14. When the setting becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the Principal will inform Ofsted and act on any advice given by the Public Health England.

Procedure for preventing cross-infection

Please also refer to the Hygiene Policy.

15. The HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis (A, B and C) are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults.
16. Single use vinyl gloves are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
17. Protective rubber gloves are used for cleaning/sluicing clothing after changing.
18. Soiled clothing is rinsed and bagged for parents to collect.
19. Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.

Nits and head lice

20. Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition, although in exceptional cases a parent may be asked to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
21. On identifying cases of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.