Sickness Policy

Policy Number	0007	Completed by	Imogen MC	Last Reviewed date	01/06/2025
Version Number	0001	Signed off by	Ade Stenner	Next Review date	01/06/2026

Policy overview

We recognise our responsibility to promote a learning environment that is safe and healthy for all. In order to maintain a clean and healthy environment this policy provides guidance for staff and parents as to when students should or should not be in school if showing signs of sickness. The health and well-being of all students is of paramount importance to enable them to be successful learners in everything they do.

The purpose of this policy is to:

To ensure that sick children are appropriately and correctly identified.
To ensure sick children are cared for appropriately.
To protect children and adults from preventable infection.
To enable staff and parents to be clear about the requirements and procedures when children are unwell.

Actions

Students should not be brought to Skylark if they are displaying signs of illness. If parents do bring students to Skylark and staff feel that they are unfit for Skylark, parents/carers/emergency contacts will be contacted and requested to come and collect their child and requested not to return their child until symptom free.

If a student is thought to be unwell while at Skylark they will be seen by a qualified first aider as the condition of the child needs to be assessed. This will be done in a kind and caring manner. The child may be distressed, so it is important to be calm and reassuring.
.
We understand the needs of working parents and do not aim to exclude students from Skylark unnecessarily. However, the decision of Skylark is final when requesting that the student is collected due to illness or infection. Decisions will take into account the needs of the student and those of the other students and staff at Skylark.

Students with infectious or contagious diseases will not be permitted to attend for certain periods. If staff suspect that a student has an infectious or contagious disease they will request that parents/carers consult a doctor before returning their child to Skylark and Skylark may seek advice from the Health Protection Agency.

Should a student become ill whilst at Skylark a member of staff will contact the parent/carer/emergency contact. While awaiting the arrival of parents/carers, the staff will ensure the comfort of the student, taking appropriate action, which would include seeking medical advice if necessary. If the student is in danger, the staff will seek medical advice immediately. Staff will report any worries about a student's health to the parents/carers

immediately. Parents are responsible for keeping Skylark informed about their child's health.

Should assessment deem the student requires medical attention; a Skylark instructor will accompany them and assume responsibility until a parent arrives.

We recommend that students do not attend Skylark while suffering from one of the communicable diseases and they should remain at home for the minimum periods recommended by their doctor.

Coughs and colds do not normally require the student to be absent but this depends on the severity and how the student is able to cope with a normal daily routine. A student who is, or appears to be unwell may be refused admission.

A student who has sickness or diarrhoea whilst at Skylark (or at home) should be collected immediately and kept absent for 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. This 48 hour rule is essential in order to protect other students or staff from contracting a bug.

If your child has not been their normal self at home but is not showing signs of illness when brought to Skylark, parents should mention this to staff and ensure that contact details are correct and that they are contactable should the child's health deteriorate.

Should a member of staff consider an illness / situation to warrant immediate medical attention, they will report to a First Aider who will contact emergency

services and the parent/carer to let them know where their child has been taken for treatment.