



## Spread of Infection Policy (Sickness & Diarrhoea)

Rooted in the community, branching into the future. Learning together within a Christian environment.

We believe that children's full potential is best achieved when we all work together.

# Flockton CE (C) First School

## Policy

### Policy

This policy is in line with guidance on infection control in schools from the Health Protection Unit.

From time to time children are sick (vomit) either at home or at school. Unfortunately it is not possible to distinguish between the causes, and therefore it is essential that the same rule of exclusion applies in all cases of vomiting or diarrhoea.

In the Health Protection Agency document, "Guidance on infection control in schools" (Sept '17), the guidance is that the **individual should be kept away from the setting for the recommended time of 48 hours since the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.**

This also applies to staff in school and is agreed policy by all schools in the Shelley Pyramid. Please support us by keeping your child at home for the recommended time after **ANY** bout of vomiting and/or diarrhoea.

### Diarrhoea and Vomiting

Diarrhoea and/or vomiting commonly affects children and staff and can be caused by a number of different germs, including viruses, parasites and bacteria. Infections can be easily spread from person to person (by unwashed hands), especially in children. In general, it is recommended that any staff member or child with diarrhoea and/or vomiting symptoms must stay away or be excluded from the school or early years setting until they have been free of symptoms for 48 hours (the '48 hour rule') and feel well. Personal hygiene whilst ill must be very strict.

If your child is sick at school, we will ask you or your emergency contact to take your child home. They should not return for 48 hours. We appreciate that this is inconvenient in many cases, and you may not believe your child is ill, but you will appreciate that we do this in all cases and it should reduce the risk of infection for all children in school. As an example, if your child is sick at lunchtime on a Tuesday, they should not return to school until after lunch on Thursday, provided there have not been any further episodes of vomiting.

Further guidance on infection control may be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities>

Following your child's absence after illness, please ensure that you send a note to their class teacher explaining the reasons. We have to keep letters as evidence of authorised and unauthorised absence from school.

This policy was drawn up by: Mr. N Cappleman

It was approved by staff: January 2010

It was approved by Governors: February 2010

Review Dates:

January 2013

February 2016

March 2018 (updated advice from HPA - Sept 2017)