

# Is my child too ill for school?

---

## Yes, they should be absent from school until...

- **Chickenpox:** at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
  - **Diarrhoea and vomiting:** 48 hours after their last episode
  - **Cold and flu-like illness (including COVID-19):** they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19
  - **Impetigo:** their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
  - **Measles:** 4 days after the rash first appeared
  - **Mumps:** 5 days after the swelling started
  - **Scabies:** they've had their first treatment
  - **Scarlet fever:** 24 hours after they began taking antibiotics
  - **Whooping cough:** 48 hours after they started taking antibiotics
- 

## No, but please let the school know about...

- Hand, foot and mouth
  - Head lice
  - Threadworms
  - Glandular fever
  - Tonsillitis
  - Slapped cheek
- 

## General advice

To protect your child and our staff from infectious illnesses, the school follows government and NHS guidance on when pupils should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

It's usually fine to send your child to school if they have a mild respiratory illness. This includes general cold symptoms – a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, a child should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of **38°C or above**.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to contact the school on the first day they are absent to let us know that your child won't be in and why.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

---

## Contact the school

Highcliffe Primary School  
Hutton Lane  
Guisborough  
TS14 8AA  
01287 632293  
Email: [pupilinfo@highcliffe.rac.sch.uk](mailto:pupilinfo@highcliffe.rac.sch.uk)  
[office@highcliffe.rac.sch.uk](mailto:office@highcliffe.rac.sch.uk)

### Further information

**This factsheet is based on the following guidance from the government and NHS:**

- [Infectious diseases: education and childcare settings](#)
- [Is my child too ill for school?](#)
- [Letter to school leaders on mild illness and school attendance](#)