



# LITTLE FLOWER ENGLISH SCHOOL DUBAI

## STUDENT ILLNESS POLICY

This policy & procedures are reviewed annually to ensure compliance with current regulations.

| Approved/ Reviewed by |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Policy Lead           | DR. SHAFIA    |
| Role                  | SCHOOL DOCTOR |
| Date of review        | 21-03-2024    |
| Date of next review   | 21-03-2025    |
| Signature             |               |



## STUDENT ILLNESS POLICY

### Introduction

This policy outlines procedures to be followed in the event of a pupil illness. As illnesses are diverse in nature it will not be able to cover all eventualities. Making sure your child attends school is your legal responsibility as a parent/guardian. It is also crucial for your child's education and future. Little Flower English School Clinic strictly follows the Dubai Health Authority's (School Health Department) guidelines.

We are requesting you to make a plan for childcare ahead of time so you will not be caught without a comforting place for your child to stay if he/she is ill.

### Please make sure,

- Is your child well enough to carry out the activities of the school day? If not, keep your child at home.
- Does your child have a condition that could be passed on to other children or school staff? If so keep your child home.

### Common Conditions

Most illnesses can be classified as one of a few minor health conditions. Whether or not you send your child to school will depend on how severe you judge the illness to be. This guidance can help you to make that judgment. If you are concerned about your child's health, please consult a health professional.

To minimize the risk of transmission of infection to other student and staff, the following guidelines are suggested

| DISEASE/ILLNESS                     | MINIMAL EXCLUSION PERIOD  |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Fever                               | Until there has been no fever for 24 hours. In the present situation child should be taken to the clinic/hospital for further evaluation.   |
| Diarrhea/vomiting/stomach pain      | Children with these conditions should be kept off school. They can return 48 hours after their symptoms have settled. In the present situation further evaluation is needed.  |
| Sore throat                         | When child feels well/Until there has been no complaints for 24 hours. In the present situation the child should be taken to the clinic/ hospital and should be assessed by a doctor.   |
| Cough and cold                      | If the cold is accompanied by shivers or drowsiness, the child should stay off school and return to school 24hours after they are feeling better. If your child has a more severe and long lasting cough, consult your GP. In the present situation, cough and cold should be evaluated by a doctor even if it is mild. |
| Chicken pox and shingles            | Excluded from the school until vesicles become dry/10 days after the onset of the rash. Immune compromised children/adults must take separate advice from GP.   |
| Conjunctivitis/sore eyes            | Child should stay away if eye is discharging until treated for 24 hours and/or eyes appear normal again. Also should be taken to a clinic and should be evaluated by a doctor.  |
| Allergic rash                       | Until there has been no symptoms for hours.   |
| German measles (Rubella) or measles | 5 days from onset of rash/medical certificate of recovery from infection  |
| Impetigo                            | Until sores have fully healed, or if necessary the student could come back earlier if exposed sores are covered with occlusive dressing.  |
| Mumps                               | 9 days from onset of swollen glands/ medical certificate of recovery from infection. Should need further evaluation and should be taken to a clinic/ hospital.  |
| Scabies                             | Until full recovery from itching. Medical fitness certificate is required for re-joining.   |

| DISEASE/ILLNESS           | MINIMAL EXCLUSION PERIOD   |
|---------------------------|--|
| Scarlet fever             | When child feels well and 48 hours after antibiotics. In the present situation further evaluation needed.  |
| An infected sore or wound | Sealed dressing or plaster with proper medication  |
| Head lice                 | For 5 days after the case is diagnosed, provided that the appropriate shampoo is being used for the student and his family   |
| COVID 19 infection        | If child has fever, body ache, headache, running nose, dry cough, breathlessness, nausea, loss of taste or smell, then immediately take the child to a hospital. In a suspected case, the RT-PCR test should be done. The patient should not return to school until the COVID PCR result is obtained. If the result is negative and there is a clinical assessment of a probable COVID-19 case, the patient should complete 14-day quarantine. If the result is Negative and there is no clinical assessment for a probable case, the child can resume schooling so long as they are symptom-free. |
|                           | The school should follow-up with the parent/staff for the PCR result and if the result is positive for COVID-19, it should be notified to DHA. The traced contacts of the patient, including teachers along with the classmates of the student, or colleagues are all considered close contacts (anyone who spent more than 15 minutes in a proximity of 2 meters with the positive case, from the day of symptoms onset, or the day of the positive PCR test) should commence the 14-day quarantine counted PCR from the day of the positive test, or from the day of the onset of symptoms.      |

### Pupils who become un well at school

If a child becomes ill at school, every effort will be made to contact their parents/ guardians and failing that, their emergency contacts. It is therefore important to keep the school informed of any changes to home/mobile nos. The child will stay in the school clinic until they are collected by parents/guardians or a known adult nominated by the parent/guardian. In the event of a pupil having an injury during school hours, the school clinic will assess the severity of the injury and

make the decision to apply first aid if appropriate. Any significant injury or accident will be reported to the parent immediately and on occasions where a prompt response is required; the school may take the decision to take the child to the Government Hospital where they will meet up with parents. If appropriate, and the severity demands, the school will call an ambulance or take the child directly to the Rashid Hospital in Dubai.

In this time of the COVID- 19 pandemic, if the child has fever or cough, watering nose, sneezing, respiratory difficulty, headache, vomiting, diarrhea or loss of taste or smell, do not send the child to school. If the symptoms are suggestive of a susceptible COVID- 19 condition, or your child had contact with a COVID positive case, please take the child to the hospital for necessary action and follow the treating doctor's instructions.

We hope that this Policy offers you some help in assessing whether or not to send your child to school in the event that they may not be well. In issuing these guidelines, we wish to reassure you that your child's health is important to us too.

If you need any further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the school health clinic.

Thanking you in advance for you kind co-operation.

**With Regards**

**Dr. Maneesha Phadke**

**Head of School Health Department**