

MANAGING YOUR CHILD IF THEY BECOME UNWELL AT SCHOOL AND ADVICE FOR RETURNING TO SCHOOL FOLLOWING ABSENCE

Date of policy: September 2020

**Developed by: Nursing Team and
Headteacher**

Ratified at:

Date: September 2020

Date of next review: September 2021

**Southfields
Multi-Academy
TRUST**



**Southfields
Academy**



**Linden Lodge
School**

A Specialist Sensory & Physical College

CONTACT NUMBERS:

School Office: 0208-788-0107

Medical Room: 0208-394-7956

Therapy Office: 0208-788-0107 ext 236/151

Wandsworth Transport: (Please add you providers number)

Procedure for if your child becomes unwell during the school day

If your child becomes unwell during the school day, they will be reviewed by the nursing team and the nursing team will write this in your child's communication book. If you have consented to a medication that can be used in an emergency (e.g paracetamol, anti-histamine, inhaler etc) and it is appropriate, the nursing team will administer the correct dose for your child following observation and monitoring in the medical room should your child have an abnormal temperature or be exhibiting symptoms of pain.

If your child has a persistent high temperature of 38°C or is above their normal range which does not reduce with the prescribed medication the nursing team will contact you by phone in order for you to collect your child.

If your child has 3 episodes of diarrhoea or vomiting the nursing team will contact you by phone in order for you to collect your child.

If the nursing team feel your child needs to go home from school they will try to contact you on 3 separate occasions. If the school are unable to get hold of you to arrange for you or another nominated adult to collect your child we will contact your social worker if you have one or your local social services team. If the school are unable to make contact with you or you are unable to collect your child they will be taken to St George's Hospital A&E for assessment.

Staff accompanying your child to hospital are instructed that they are not authorised to sign any consent forms either for medication to be administered or for any emergency operation.

Returning to School after a short illness

If your child has diarrhoea/vomiting they must be kept off school for 48 hours **after** the last episode of vomiting/diarrhoea. You must ring the school to inform them of the pro-posed date for your child to return.

Returning to School after a prolonged illness/hospitalisation

If your child has been unwell or in hospital we need to make sure that everything is in place and amend your child's care plan accordingly to keep them safe and to help them learn effectively. We may need to put in place changes to staffing or additional resources, equipment or training to enable your child to return to school safely

As soon as you have any information about a potential return date please ring the school office and the nursing team so that a plan can be put in place.

Things we need to know:

Changes to medication

If your child's doctors have changed any of the medicines that they are on, either the dosage, the times, the medicine itself or the strength, the school require these changes in writing from the prescribing doctor (either in the form of a discharge letter, prescription or doctors clinic letter) BEFORE the school will make any amendments to your child's drug regime to be given during the school day or in the residential unit. We will also re-quire a copy of any medical consent letter that allows you to start/change/finish a medi-cation following verbal instruction from your doctor.

Feed Changes

Any changes to your child's feeding regime – volume given or type of feed - will need to be in writing from a dietician. This can include a letter from your dietician giving consent for you as a parent to alter a feeding regime. The speech and language therapists will need to know any changes to your child's eating/drinking and any changes in the tex-ture they can manage (e.g they may have started to use a thickener).

Equipment/Wheelchairs/Moving and Handling

If your child has any changes to their weight bearing, mobility, posture, or equipment please inform the Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists as soon as possible. You or the hospital staff may need to contact the wheelchair service or social services occupational therapists for equipment to be used at home. If new equipment needs to be ordered for use in school this can take time and delay your child in returning to school.

Swimming

Please inform the school of any wounds/rashes/infections that will prevent your child from accessing the swimming/hydro pool. If your child has had surgery the physiothera-pists and the swimming team need to know any precautions/contra-indications to hydro-therapy/swimming.

Transport

Transport will need to know the return dates and any changes/precautions to ensure the safe transport of your child.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss any issues arising from your child's illness and to hear how he/she is progressing. Please contact the nursing team on the num-bers above to discuss your child's medical condition should you wish to.