

Communicable Diseases Policy

Date:

March 2015

Review Date:

March 2016

We acknowledge that outbreaks of many communicable diseases in schools are actually a reflection of infection spreading in the general community and are difficult to prevent.

We are aware that some communicable disease can be passed on before a person becomes unwell while others can be transmitted by apparently-well carriers of a disease. Therefore, it is very important for us to maintain high standards of basic cleanliness and hygiene at all times.

Aims

- To have in place health and safety procedures and guidance to deal with the prevention of the spread of communicable diseases.

Procedure

Role of the Governing Body	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The GB has:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ appointed a member of staff to be the Coordinator for Health and Safety; Mr Daniel Duncalf▪ nominated a link governor to visit the school regularly, to liaise with the coordinator and to report back to the GB; Mr Steve Sayer▪ the authority to close the school in the event of an outbreak of infectious disease;▪ a responsibility for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.
Role of the Headteacher	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Headteacher will:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ ensure school personnel and parents are aware of the health and safety procedures involving communicable diseases;▪ monitor the levels of absenteeism;▪ notify the school nurse and the Health Protection Unit of problems relating to communicable diseases;▪ inform the LA of problems relating to communicable diseases;▪ inform parents of any outbreak of an infectious disease;▪ enforce individual medical exclusion from school.

Our Lady and St Joseph School

Role of the Local Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LA will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> keep schools updated with new guidance on the control of communicable diseases; liaise with all statutory health organisations.
Procedures to Deal with an Outbreak of Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school will be aware of an outbreak of an infectious disease by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a sudden increase in the number of absentees; reports from parents that their children are suffering from an infectious disease; the mode of transmission; the HPU contacting the school. The Headteacher will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> contact the LA and the Health Protection Unit with all the relevant details; inform parents/carers of the situation and refer them to the HPA website for information on how to deal with the infection.
Medical Exclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents will be requested not to send their children to school when they are ill. Pupils who become ill during the school day will be taken home by their parents. Pupils suffering from infectious diseases should remain at home for the minimum recommended period.
Exclusion Periods for Communicable Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See www.hpa.org.uk See attached sheet for guidance
Effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We believe this policy will be effective only if we ensure consistency across the school by regular monitoring.

Headteacher:		Date:	
Chair of Governing Body:		Date:	