

We all know the importance of attendance at school. Occasionally, your child may wake up on a school day and say that they feel unwell. Here is some helpful advice and handy tips about what you should consider when deciding if they are well enough to attend school.

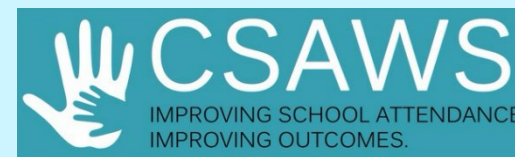


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Attendance Advice

*Children who feel
unwell or have
health needs*



If your child has no temperature but has a cough, cold, headache or earache then (as with adults) medical advice is to give them paracetamol (Calpol, etc) and send them to school.

Your child's school will always contact you if your child's condition worsens or if they believe it is contagious, such as chicken pox, vomiting, etc.

If you are not sure if your child's illness is classed as infectious and whether they need to be kept off school or for how long, you should contact the school office who can offer advice and information.

Up-to-date childhood immunisations can prevent many diseases, such as measles, mumps, and chicken pox.

Many illnesses can also be prevented and children can be reminded:

- not to share food
- not to share drinks
- not to share clothing
- to throw away used tissues

There are two attendance sessions in every day and so missing school for a whole day counts as two absences. Whenever possible, arrange medical/dental/optician appointments at the end of the school day or outside school hours. If an appointment is made in school time your child should come into school first and/or return after their appointment.

Always provide copies of appointment letters and cards to your child's school so they can mark the register accordingly.

Please be aware that the absence or illness of a pupil should not affect the education (attendance) of their siblings.

If a pupil has an appointment (particularly at the beginning or end of the school day) arrangements should be made to ensure that other siblings are either dropped off or collected from school on time.

Lack of sleep

If your child has been ill in the night and had broken sleep, please consider sending them into school later in the day rather than not at all. Your child may feel better and they will have the chance to join their friends and find out about learning and/or homework.

Absent but able to learn

Please talk to school if your child has a chronic or long-term illness as there are a number of ways your child can maintain some education and learning. We will work closely with you and your child to ensure that we maintain the right balance ensuring your child can keep up whilst checking the type and amount of school work that your child does is appropriate for them and their medical condition.

Please remember to phone the school office for any absence. Please note regulations for schools give the head teacher the right to consider whether to accept the parent/carers position with regard to medical absence – and may decide to unauthorise the absence.