

Recommended periods for children with an infection to be kept away from nursery

The purpose of keeping sick children away from nursery is to prevent the spread of infection. Measures can be taken to control the source of infection and the route of transmission. In some instances exclusion may be necessary.

Exclusion of Pupils

1. The purpose of exclusion is to separate a child with a potentially infectious disease from other children to prevent them from acquiring the infection. This means that children will normally be excluded while they remain infectious.
2. Information on periods of communicability and exclusion from the nursery is provided under 'Communicable Diseases'

Members of Staff with Infection

Staff employed in the nursery i.e. teachers, helpers, and students/volunteers etc. should have the same rules regarding staying away from work applied to them as are applied to pupils. They may return to work when they are no longer infectious, provided they feel well enough to do so.

Exclusion procedure for illness / communicable diseases, Minimum periods of exclusion from nursery:-

<u>Disease/Illness</u>	<u>Minimal Exclusion Period</u>
Antibiotics prescribed	<i>First 2 days at home</i>
Temperature	<i>If sent home child must be off for 24 hours</i>
Vomiting	<i>If sent home child must be off for 48 hours</i>
Conjunctivitis	<i>Kept home until eyes are no longer weeping</i>
Diarrhoea	<i>48 hours</i>
Gastroenteritis	<i>Until authorised by GP/community physician</i>
Infective Hepatitis	<i>7 days from onset of jaundice</i>
Measles	<i>7 days from appearance of rash</i>
Meningococcal infection	<i>Until recovered</i>
Mumps	<i>Until swelling has subsided/not less than 7 days from onset of illness</i>
Whooping cough	<i>21 days from onset of paroxysmal cough</i>

Poliomyelitis	<i>Until declared free from infection by district community physician</i>
Rubella	<i>4 days from appearance of rash</i>
Scarlet fever and streptococcal throat infection	<i>until appropriate medical procedure has been given</i>
Tuberculosis	<i>until declared free from protection by district community physician</i>
Impetigo	<i>until the skin has healed</i>
Pediculosis (lice)	<i>until appropriate treatment has been given</i>
Planter warts	<i>No exclusion. Treat and cover</i>
Ringworm	<i>until cured</i>
Scabies	<i>need not to be excluded once appropriate treatment has been given</i>
Athletes foot	<i>No exclusion – it is not a serious condition. Treatment is recommended</i>
Chicken Pox	<i>Five days from the onset of rash SEE: Vulnerable Children and Female Staff – Pregnancy</i>
Hand, foot and Mouth	<i>Five days from the onset of rash/blisters SEE: Vulnerable Children and Female Staff – Pregnancy</i>
Cold Sore	<i>No exclusion - Avoid kissing and contact with the sores. Cold sores are generally mild and self-limiting</i>