



## Sickness and Absence

*We believe that every day in school matters  
and every lesson counts*

### What should I do if my child is unwell?

Not all illnesses need children to stay away from school. Coughs and colds are common and do not require you to keep your child off school. We always have tissues and fresh drinking water. Parents are able to drop in and administer Calpol at midday if they feel this will help their child.

If your child has started the day saying they don't feel well, and have not been sick or shown a temperature, please bring them in! Sometimes the illness is related to a worry about something else, and we are better able to support your child if they come in and we can talk to them and reassure them. We will always contact you if your child becomes unwell during the day!

If you are unsure whether or not to keep your child off from school, please telephone us for advice.

#### First day of illness

- Contact us by phone as soon as possible and tell us why.

#### Second day onwards

- Continue to call each day to update us on your child's recovery. (Very occasionally, we may be required to ask for medical evidence of a visit to the GP (e.g prescription/text message showing appointment).

*It all adds up ...85% attendance = 30 missed days from school (or 6 weeks!)*

**What if my child has sickness and diarrhoea?** Contact us by phone to tell us your child is unwell. Keep them at home for 48 hours.

**What if my child has an illness and I am not sure if it is contagious?** Please phone us for advice. Not all illnesses require the child to stay away, others state a short period of absence. We will advise you according to NHS and Central Beds guidelines.

**If your child is absent and we haven't heard from you we will** telephone or text you because we have a duty to ensure your child's safety as well as their regular school attendance. Please help us by making sure we have your most up-to-date contact numbers.

**Medical appointments.** Please let us know if your child has a medical appointment and needs to be taken out of school for this. Your child can be collected during lessons to attend, and can return to school afterwards.

### Holidays in Term Time

Please complete a **Request for Leave of Absence form** (attached) so that we know why your child is absent from school.

Children and families have 175 days off school to spend time together, including weekends and school holidays, therefore Government guidelines advise that schools should only grant leave of absence during term time if there are exceptional circumstances.

**Attendance matters  
Every Lesson Counts!**

