

PL404 - Infection Control

First Implementation date | September 2015

Date last reviewed | September 2024

Reviewed by | Alison Baldwin, Dr Myla and Dr Grace

A. Introduction

Good health is crucial for a child to concentrate and function effectively at school. It is important that if the child is unwell, they should rest at home and recuperate fully before returning to school.

As an education provider to a large number of students, we have a duty of care to ensure all our learners are in a safe, clean environment at all times. In order to support this, an infection control procedure was implemented to reduce the risk of spreading infectious illnesses among students and staff.

B. Purpose

An infection control procedure was implemented in order to reduce the spread of illnesses in the Academy.

C. Policy Statement

- 1. If a child has any of the following symptoms, parents should at least seek medical advice from their doctor and ensure they do not attend the Academy until symptoms have exhausted.
 - 1.1. a fever not to return to school until at least 24 hours after fever has resolved <u>without</u> the use of fever-reducing medicines.
 - 1.2. a skin rash
 - 1.3. vomiting and/or diarrhea (not to return to school for <u>24 hours</u> after the last episode, unless they have a doctor's note clearing them safe to return to school sooner)
 - 1.4. a heavy nasal discharge
 - 1.5. a persistent cough
 - 1.6. red eyes with a discharge
- 2. If a child has an infected sore or wound, it should receive proper treatment.
- 3. The school should be notified if a child has been or is being treated for a medical condition.
- 4. If a child needs medication at school, the medicine should be brought to the school clinic with proper labels and instructions. A consent form that the medicine is to be administered by the school nurse should be signed by the parent and the child will be required to come to the clinic at the appropriate time to take it.
- 5. Following recovery from any contagious or communicable disease, a clearance certificate from attending physician should be submitted to the Academy clinic before entering the classroom.
- 6. If a child is assessed by the Academy Medical team and thought to be a possible source of infection to other students and staff, the parent will be contacted to take the child out of Academy immediately.
- 7. For those who tested positive for covid-19, they should isolate at home for 5 days and can only return to school if already free of symptoms and has been cleared by the medical team during virtual assessment done one to two days before completing their isolation period.