

BELLAVISTA School

Guidance on Exclusions at Bellavista School 2022



REDUCE THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Vulnerable children

1. Bellavista recognises that some medical conditions make children vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children, these include those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers, on high doses of steroids and with conditions that seriously reduce immunity.
2. These children are particularly vulnerable to illnesses like COVID!9, chickenpox and measles and, if exposed to these, Bellavista undertakes to inform relevant parents/guardians to allow them to seek further medical advice.

Female staff – pregnancy

1. Certain illnesses like Chickenpox, Rubella or Measles can affect the pregnancy if a woman has not already had the infection.
2. Bellavista undertakes to inform staff if such an illness is confirmed in the school community to allow pregnant women to seek medical guidance, as required.

Sick Children

Bellavista asks parents not to send their children to school when they are unwell. The primary reasons for exclusion are that the condition:

1. prevents the child from learning and participating comfortably in school activities;
2. results in a need for care that is greater than staff members can provide without compromising the education as well as the health and safety of other children;
3. poses a risk of spread of harmful disease to others. See Guidance for Exclusion for Infectious Diseases below:

General Symptoms	Required period away from school
Fever (37.8°C)	Exclude until tested for virus, If positive exclusion for 7 days and quarantine, if negative, exclude until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications. Clearance certificate from GP required.
Diarrhoea & Gastro-intestinal Infections	Exclude for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea and until the individual is well enough to participate in school activities. Clearance certificate from GP required.
Vomiting	Exclude for 48 hours from the last episode of vomiting and until the individual is well enough to participate in school activities. Clearance certificate from GP required.
Coughing	Exclude until tested for virus, If positive exclusion for 7 days and quarantine. If negative - exclude until recovered and individual is well enough to participate in school activities. Clearance certificate from GP required.

Shortness of breath	Exclude until tested for virus, If positive exclusion for 7 days and quarantine. If negative - exclude until recovered and individual is well enough to participate in school activities. Clearance certificate from GP.
Fatigue	Exclude until tested for virus, If positive exclusion for 7 days and quarantine. If negative - exclude until recovered and individual is well enough to participate in school activities. Clearance certificate from GP.

Rashes and Skin Infections

	Required period away from school	Comments
Athlete's foot	None	Care to be taken to avoid spread in school. These measures include regular handwashing, no sharing of clothes or towels, covering affected areas where possible and avoiding contact with affected areas.
Chickenpox	Exclude for 5 days after the onset of the rash and until all vesicles have crusted over.	School staff to be notified when a case is confirmed as there is risk to pregnant women.
Cold sores, (Herpes simplex)	None	Care to be taken to avoid spread in school. These measures include regular handwashing, no sharing of clothes or towels, covering affected areas where possible and avoiding contact with affected areas.
German measles (rubella)	Exclude for seven days from onset of rash	School staff to be notified when a case is confirmed as there is risk to pregnant women.
Hand, foot and mouth	Exclude until all blisters have dried.	Care to be taken to avoid spread in school. These measures include regular handwashing, no sharing of clothes or towels, covering affected areas where possible and avoiding contact with affected areas.
Impetigo	Exclude until lesions are crusted and healed, or 48 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment.	
Measles	Exclude for 4 days from onset of rash.	School staff to be notified when a case is confirmed as there is risk to pregnant women.
Ringworm	No exclusion, unless the infected area cannot be completely covered by clothing or a bandage.	
Roseola (infantum)	None	
Scabies	Exclude until after first treatment.	Household and close contacts require treatment
Streptococcal Infections e.g. Scarlet fever	Exclude until 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment.	
Slapped cheek (fifth disease or parvovirus B19)	No longer infectious once rash has developed.	School staff to be notified when a case is confirmed as there is risk to pregnant women.
Shingles	Exclude only if the rash cannot be covered.	School staff to be notified when a case is confirmed as there is risk to pregnant women.
Warts and verrucae	None	Care to be taken to avoid spread in school. These measures include regular handwashing, no sharing of clothes or towels, covering affected areas where possible and avoiding contact with affected areas.

Respiratory Infections

	Required period away from school	Comments
Coronavirus (COVID-19) symptomatic or asymptomatic	Exclude for 7 days and in quarantine.	Good hygiene, in particular handwashing, sanitising and thorough environmental cleaning, are important to minimise any danger of spread. Coughing and sneezing into a tissue or upper arm. No human contact and social distancing. Wear 3ply face mask at all times.
Viral Respiratory Infections e.g. Influenza	Exclude until fully recovered (symptom free) and the individual is well enough to participate in school activities.	
Tuberculosis	Antibiotic treatment has begun AND medical certificate of recovery is received.	
Whooping cough (pertussis)	Five days from commencing antibiotic treatment, or 21 days from onset of illness if no antibiotic treatment.	

Other Infections

	Required period away from school	Comments
Conjunctivitis	Exclude until discharge from eyes has ceased.	
Diphtheria	Exclusion is essential until a medical certificate of recovery is received.	
Glandular fever	Exclude until fully recovered and the individual is well enough to participate in school activities.	
Head lice	Exclude until after first treatment AND clinic clearance has been received.	
Hepatitis A	Exclude until seven days after onset of jaundice or illness.	
Hepatitis B & C	None	Blood borne viruses are not infectious through casual contact. Apply good hygiene practice when dealing with blood and body fluid spills.
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)	None Refer to the School's policy on HIV.	Apply good hygiene practice when dealing with blood and body fluid spills.
Meningococcal meningitis	Exclude until at least 24 hours of appropriate antibiotic therapy has been administered and a medical certificate of recovery is received.	
Meningitis due to other bacteria	Exclude until fully recovered and the individual is well enough to participate in school activities and a medical certificate of recovery is received.	
Meningitis viral	Exclude until recovered and the individual is well enough to participate in school activities.	
MRSA	None	Good hygiene, in particular handwashing and environmental cleaning, are important to minimise any danger of spread.
Mumps	Exclude for five days after onset of swelling.	