



THE
NEW GUILD
TRUST

Infection Control Policy

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Appendix 1: [Link to Infection Absence Periods public Health advisory poster](#)

Statement of Intent

Throughout the school year, it is common for children to become unwell. The purpose of this policy is to outline the precautions that the school takes, and the procedures in place to prevent the spread of illness and infectious diseases within the school.

The school actively prevents the spread of infection through the following measures:

- Maintaining high standards of personal hygiene and practice
- Maintaining a clean environment

The school follows the guidance on infections laid out in the Public Health England's document 'Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and other Childcare Settings' Sept 24

The practice in this policy applies to the whole school, and is carried out in conjunction with relevant policies.

1. Legal Framework

- 1.1. This policy has due regard to statutory legislation, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (As amended 2004)
 - Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- 1.2. This policy also has due regard to advisory guidance, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - Public Health England (2024) 'Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and other Childcare Settings'

2. Hygiene Practice

- 2.1. The school encourages good personal hygiene practice through the following measures:
 - Posters are displayed encouraging all pupils, staff members and visitors to follow good hygiene practices.
 - Sufficient liquid soap, warm water and paper towels/hand dryers are made available for everyone to wash their hands in all toilets.
 - Where necessary, younger pupils are supervised to ensure they have washed their hands.
- 2.2. Cleaners are employed to carry out thorough and frequent cleaning that follows the national guidance and is compliant with control of substances hazardous to health regulations and the school's Health and Safety Policy.
- 2.3. All contracted cleaners are appropriately trained to use personal protective equipment (PPE).
- 2.4. Any spillages of bodily fluids are cleaned up immediately.
- 2.5. Clinical waste will be stored in clinical waste bags, no more than two-thirds full, and in a secure location, before it is removed by the registered waste contractor.
- 2.6. All sharps will be immediately discarded into the sharps bin, which is kept out of reach of children.
- 2.7. All pupils and staff will wash their hands using warm water, soap and paper towels after touching any animal that is brought on to the school premises; the appropriate procedures as per CLEAPPS guidance will be adhered to at all times.
- 2.8. Parent / carer will not bring their child to the school in line with public health England guidelines.

3. Immunisation

- 3.1. The term immunisation refers to both receiving a vaccine and becoming immune to a disease as a result of being vaccinated.
- 3.2. The school is aware that certain vaccinations will involve an exclusion period in which pupils are not required to attend school.
- 3.3. The school keeps up-to-date with national and local immunisation scheduling and advice. All pupils' immunisation status is checked at school entry and at the time of any vaccination.
- 3.4. The school shares information that encourages Parent / carer to have their children immunised through sharing of information.
- 3.5. Parental consent will always be sought before a vaccination is given by the NHS.
- 3.6. A healthcare team will visit the school in order to carry out vaccinations and will be able to advise Parent / carer or carers if there are any concerns.
- 3.7. Members of staff will be with pupils before, during and after vaccinations in order to keep the pupils relaxed and create a calming atmosphere.
- 3.8. The school will ensure that the venue used is a clean, open, well-ventilated room, where pupils can access water and fresh air.

4. Infectious Diseases

- 4.1. If a member of staff suspects the presence of an infectious disease in the school, they will contact the School Business Manager / SLT who will seek further advice.
- 4.2. If a parent informs the school that their child carries an infectious disease, other pupils will be observed for similar symptoms by their teachers.
- 4.3. If a child is identified as having a notifiable disease, as outlined in Appendix A, the school will inform the parent/carer, who should inform their doctor.

5. First Aid

- 5.1. Please refer to The New Guild Trust's First Aid Policy.

6. Head Lice

- 6.1. If a staff member observes head lice in a pupil's hair, they will sensitively inform the parent and advise them to treat their child's hair.
- 6.2. Regular information is sent to parent/carer or carers with regards to head lice.

7. Procedures for Unwell Pupils/Staff

- 7.1. If a staff member observes a pupil is displaying warning signs of being unwell parent/carer and carers will be informed.
- 7.2. Parent/Carer are asked to disclose if their child has a medical condition which makes them vulnerable to infection.
- 7.3. If a vulnerable pupil, which includes those being treated for leukaemia or other cancers, those on high doses of steroids and those with conditions that seriously reduce immunity, is exposed to chicken pox or measles, the parent will be informed immediately and further medical advice sought.
- 7.4. Pupils will not return to school following an infectious illness any sooner than the recommended absence period outlined by Public Health England Guidance.

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/2024-10/A2%20Schools%20poster%20to%20fold%202024%20%28updated%29.pdf>

8. Pregnant Staff

- 8.1. Pregnant staff will be informed of any infectious diseases in the school and advised to follow Public Health guidance.

9. Medication

- 9.1. All medicine administered in school will be done in line with The New Guild Trust's Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy and Individual Care Plans.

10. Monitoring and Review

- 10.1. The Headteacher will review this policy on an annual basis in conjunction with the Local Community Governing Board and will make any changes necessary, taking into account the current effectiveness of infection control and prevention.
- 10.2. All members of staff are required to familiarise themselves with this policy as part of their induction programme.

Appendix 1

Infection Absence Periods

See Guidance on Infection control in schools from public Health Agency Sept 2024

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/2024-10/A%20Schools%20poster%20to%20fold%202024%20%28updated%29.pdf>