



# Three Towers

An Alternative Provision Academy

*Expanding Horizons*

## Health & Safety Policy

Adopted: September 2021

Review: as required by statutory guidance

## 1. Aims

TTAPA aims to:

- establish and maintain safe working procedures amongst staff, learners and all visitors to the school sites;
- ensure that the premises and equipment are maintained safely, and are regularly inspected;
- have robust procedures in place in case of emergencies;
- provide and maintain a safe and healthy environment.

## 2. Legislation

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association and is based on advice from the Department for Education on [health and safety in schools](#) and the following legislation:

- [The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974](#), which sets out the general duties employers have towards employees and duties relating to lettings;
- [The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992](#), which require employers to make an assessment of the risks to the health and safety of their employees;
- [The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#), which require employers to carry out risk assessments, make arrangements to implement necessary measures, and arrange for appropriate information and training;
- [The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002](#), which require employers to control substances that are hazardous to health;
- [The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations \(RIDDOR\) 2013](#), which state that some accidents must be reported to the Health and Safety Executive and set out the timeframe for this and how long records of such accidents must be kept;
- [The Health and Safety \(Display Screen Equipment\) Regulations 1992](#), which require employers to carry out digital screen equipment assessments and states users' entitlement to an eyesight test;
- [The Gas Safety \(Installation and Use\) Regulations 1998](#), which require work on gas fittings to be carried out by someone on the Gas Safe Register;
- [The Regulatory Reform \(Fire Safety\) Order 2005](#), which requires employers to take general fire precautions to ensure the safety of their staff;
- [The Work at Height Regulations 2005](#), which requires employers to protect their staff from falls from height.

The school follows [national guidance published by Public Health England](#) when responding to infection control issues.

## 3. Roles & Responsibilities

### 3.1 The Rowan Learning Trust (tRLT)

The Rowan Learning Trust has ultimate responsibility for health and safety matters in each of its schools. The trust will oversee health and safety, as led by the CEO, but

will delegate day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher in accordance with the scheme of delegation.

The trust has a duty to take reasonable steps to ensure that staff and learners are not exposed to risks to their health and safety. This applies to activities on or off the school premises.

The Rowan Learning Trust, as the employer, also has a duty to:

- assess the risks to staff and others affected by school activities in order to identify and introduce the health and safety measures necessary to manage those risks;
- ensure that adequate health and safety training is provided;
- inform employees about risks and the measures in place to manage them.

### 3.2 Governors

Each school in the trust has a named local governor who oversees health and safety, who helps to monitor health and safety with the headteacher.

### 3.3 Headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for health and safety day-to-day. This involves:

- implementing the health and safety policy;
- ensuring that the school building and premises are safe and regularly inspected;
- ensuring there are enough staff to safely supervise learners;
- ensuring all risk assessments are completed and reviewed;
- ensuring adequate training is provided for school staff including cleaners;
- ensuring that staff have access to personal protective equipment (PPE) where necessary;
- ensuring appropriate evacuation procedures are in place and regular fire drills are held;
- ensuring there is a copy of the health and safety law poster up in school (or that each member of staff is given the equivalent leaflet);
- ensuring that in their absence, health and safety responsibilities are delegated to another member of staff;
- reporting to the governing board on health and safety matters.

In the headteacher's absence, the School Business Manager assumes the above day-to-day health and safety responsibilities supported by the Deputy Headteacher onsite at the time.

The Headteacher is responsible for appointing and briefing staff for supervision and welfare duties with regards to learners. Supervision duty rotas during break/lunchtime and out of school including the arrival/departure of learners are displayed in the staffroom.

### 3.4 The School Business Manager

The school business manager is responsible for monitoring cleaning contracts, and ensuring cleaners are appropriately trained and have access to personal protective equipment, where necessary.

### 3.5 Health and safety lead

The nominated health and safety lead is the Headteacher.

### 3.6 Staff

Staff have a duty to take care of learners in the same way that a prudent parent would do so. Staff have a duty to take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by what they do at work. Staff will also:

- co-operate with the school on health and safety matters;
- comply with the school dress code with particular regard to modesty, dignity and safety (including footwear and jewellery);
- inform the appropriate person of any work situation representing a serious and immediate danger so that remedial action can be taken;
- model safe and hygienic practice for learners;
- report any health & safety hazards (e.g. loose carpets, wet floors, broken furniture or equipment etc.). Non-urgent matters should be reported to the site staff as soon as possible for them to respond. Urgent matters should be reported to the school office immediately by phone or in person so that site staff can be alerted and respond immediately;
- understand emergency evacuation procedures and feel confident in implementing them;
- work in accordance with training and instructions.

### 3.7 Learners and parents/carers

Learners and parents/carers are responsible for following the trust and school's health and safety advice, on-site and off-site, and for reporting any health and safety incidents to a member of staff. Learners are specifically prohibited from wearing jewellery which may cause them or others injury, particularly during physical activities and/or contact sports.

### 3.8 Contractors

Contractors will agree health and safety practices with the Headteacher, School Business Manager and Site Manager before starting work. Before work begins the contractor will provide evidence that they have completed an adequate risk assessment of all their planned work.

### 3.9 Visitors

All visitors should have pre-booked appointments. They are allowed onto site by office staff who control the pedestrian gates. Once onsite, the office site let them into reception via access-controlled doors. Visitors sign in using INVENTORY and wear their printed ID badge with their details and photo for the duration of their visit. Visitors then wait in reception to be collected by the relevant member of staff. Visitors are never left unsupervised onsite.

## 4. Site security

The Site Manager supported by the caretaking staff are responsible for the security of the school site in and out of school hours. They are responsible for visual inspections of the site, and for the intruder and fire alarm systems.

Step Up Security are key holders and will respond to an emergency. Additional key holders:

- Site Manager – both sites
- School Business Manager – both site
- Headteacher – both sites
- Caretakers – Hindley site only
- Caretaker – Whelley site only
- Deputy Headteacher – Whelley site only

There is a separate document outlining School Security Procedures.

### 4.1 CCTV

Both sites have extensive coverage internally and externally by a CCTV system Refer to CCTV Policy for details.

## 5. Fire

Emergency exits, assembly points and assembly point instructions are clearly identified by safety signs and notices.

Fire risk assessment of the premises are reviewed at least annually.

Emergency evacuations are practised once a term.

The fire alarm is a loud continuous bell.

Fire alarm testing takes place once a week.

New staff are trained in fire awareness and safety as part of their induction and all staff have fire safety awareness training every 3 years. Fire Wardens are trained every 3 years.

All staff and learners will be made aware of any new fire risks.

In the event of a fire:

- the alarm is raised immediately by whoever discovers the fire and emergency services contacted. Evacuation procedures will also begin immediately;
- fire extinguishers may be used by staff only, and only then if staff are trained in how to operate them and are confident they can use them without putting themselves or others at risk;
- staff and learners will congregate at the assembly points. These are identified in the school security documents;
- teachers take a register of learners, which will then be checked against the attendance register of that day;
- the nominated school admin officer will take a register of all staff;
- staff and learners will remain outside the building until the emergency services say it is safe to re-enter.

The school will have special arrangements in place for the evacuation of people with mobility needs and fire risk assessments will also pay particular attention to those

with disabilities. These are detailed in PEEPs and nominated staff will be aware of the details.

## 6. COSHH

Schools are required to control hazardous substances, which can take many forms, including:

- chemicals;
- dusts;
- fumes;
- gases and asphyxiating gases;
- germs that cause diseases, such as leptospirosis or legionnaires disease;
- mists;
- products containing chemicals;
- vapours.

Control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH) risk assessments are completed by the Site Manager and the Head of Science and available to all employees who work with hazardous substances. Staff will also be provided with protective equipment, where necessary.

Our staff use and store hazardous products in accordance with instructions on the product label. All hazardous products are kept in their original containers, with clear labelling and product information.

Hazardous chemicals used for cleaning and site maintenance are stored in locked metal cabinets clearly labelled in locked store cupboards.

Chemicals used in science are also stored in locked prep rooms in locked chemical cupboards. Chemicals used in Art are stored in a locked chemicals cupboards in the Art store cupboards.

Cleaning materials (dishwasher products, washing powder and washing up liquid) used in cooking lessons are managed by the staff and learners are supervised closely if using them.

Any hazardous products are disposed of in accordance with specific disposal procedures.

Emergency procedures, including procedures for dealing with spillages, are displayed near where hazardous products are stored and in areas where they are routinely used.

### 6.1 Gas safety

- Installation, maintenance and repair of gas appliances and fittings will be carried out by a competent Gas Safe registered engineer.
- Gas pipework, appliances and flues are regularly maintained.
- All rooms with gas appliances are checked to ensure that they have adequate ventilation.

## 6.2 Legionella

- A water risk assessment is completed annually during the summer holidays as part of a service level agreement with external specialist contractors. The Site Manager is responsible for ensuring that the identified operational controls are conducted and recorded in the school's water log book.
- This risk assessment will be reviewed annually and when significant changes have occurred to the water system and/or building footprint.
- The risks from legionella are mitigated by the following: a service level agreement is in place for monthly water testing; site staff undertake flushing of all outlets after the school has been closed for more than 1 week.

## 6.3 Asbestos

- Staff are briefed on the hazards of asbestos, the location of any asbestos in the school and the action to take if they suspect they have disturbed it.
- Arrangements are in place to ensure that contractors are made aware of any asbestos on the premises and that it is not disturbed by their work.
- Contractors are advised that if they discover material which they suspect could be asbestos, they will stop work immediately until the area is declared safe.
- A record is kept of the location of asbestos that has been found on the school site. The Asbestos Management Plan and survey is undertaken every two years (updates are added if works are done to remove any identified asbestos between visits).
- **There is NO asbestos on the Whelley site.**

## 7. Equipment

All equipment and machinery is maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. In addition, maintenance schedules outline when extra checks should take place. Before new equipment is purchased, it is checked to ensure that it meets appropriate educational standards. All equipment is stored in the appropriate storage containers and areas. All containers are labelled with the correct hazard sign and contents.

### 7.1 Electrical equipment

- All staff are responsible for ensuring that they use and handle electrical equipment sensibly and safely;
- Any learner or volunteer who handles electrical appliances does so under the supervision of the member of staff who so directs them;
- Any potential hazards will be reported the Site Manager immediately;
- Permanently installed electrical equipment is connected through a dedicated isolator switch and adequately earthed;
- Only trained staff members can check plugs;
- Where necessary a portable appliance test (PAT) is carried out by a competent person;
- All isolators switches are clearly marked to identify their machine;
- Electrical apparatus and connections are not touched by wet hands and will only be used in dry conditions;

- Maintenance, repair, installation and disconnection work associated with permanently installed or portable electrical equipment is only carried out by a competent person.

## 7.2 PE equipment

- Learners are taught how to carry out and set up PE equipment safely and efficiently. Staff check that equipment is set up safely.
- The school follows guidelines laid down in statutory guidance and by the Association of Physical education (APE).
- Outdoor gym and playground equipment is serviced annually through a service level agreement with a specialist contractor.
- Any concerns about the condition of the gym floor or other apparatus will be reported to the site staff.

## 7.3 Display screen equipment

- All staff who use computers daily as a significant part of their normal work are trained to complete a display screen equipment (DSE) self-assessment. 'Significant' is taken to be continuous/near continuous spells of an hour or more at a time. The ICT Technician is trained to undertake DSE assessments to support staff less confident in doing this.
- Staff identified as DSE users are entitled to an eyesight test for DSE use upon request, and at regular intervals thereafter, by a qualified optician (and corrective glasses provided if required specifically for DSE use).

## 8. Lone working

Lone working may include:

- home or site visits;
- late working;
- site cleaning/caretaking duties;
- Site Manager duties;
- weekend working (exceptional circumstances);
- working in a single occupancy office.

Potentially dangerous activities, such as those where there is a risk of falling from height, will not be undertaken when working alone. If there are any doubts about the task to be performed then the task will be postponed until other staff members are available.

If lone working is to be undertaken, a colleague, friend or family member will be informed about where the member of staff is and when they are likely to return. The lone worker must ensure that they are medically fit to work alone.

## 9. Working at height

TTAPA will ensure that work is properly planned, supervised and carried out by competent people with the skills, knowledge and experience to do the work.

In addition:

- access to high levels, such as roofs, is only permitted by trained persons;
- caretakers retain ladders for working at height;
- contractors are expected to provide their own ladders for working at height;

- learners are prohibited from using ladders;
- staff are expected to wear appropriate footwear and clothing when using ladders;
- staff are expected to conduct a visual inspection to ensure the ladder's safety before using it.

All site staff have completed working at height training. Ladders are visually checked prior to each use and are checked annually through a service level agreement.

## 10. Manual handling

It is up to individuals to determine whether they are fit to lift or move equipment and furniture. If an individual feels that to lift an item could result in injury or exacerbate an existing condition, they must ask for assistance. TTAPA will ensure that proper mechanical aids and lifting equipment are available in school, and that staff are trained in how to use them safely.

Staff and learners are expected to use the following basic manual handling procedure:

- plan the lift and assess the load. If it is awkward or heavy, use a mechanical aid, such as a trolley, or ask another person to help;
- take the more direct route that is clear from obstruction and is as flat as possible;
- ensure the area where you plan to offload the load is clear;
- when lifting, bend your knees and keep your back straight, feet apart and angled out.
- ensure the load is held close to the body and firmly. Lift smoothly and slowly and avoid twisting, stretching and reaching where practicable.

All site staff have completed manual handling training. Whenever possible, staff are to work in pairs; for large item handling, TTAPA hire specialist removals professionals.

## 11. Off-site visits

There is a trained Educational Visits Co-ordinator (EVC) on staff to assist staff planning trips/visits. All activities are planned in line with TTAPA's Educational Visits Policy & Procedures and approved in advance by the Headteacher. When taking learners off the school premises, TTAPA ensures that:

- all risk assessments have been completed in advance where off-site visits and activities require them and approved by the Headteacher, before the EVC submits them to the EVOLVE system for further approval;
- all off-site visits are appropriately staffed;
- before the trip/visit learners are briefed about the activities, behavioural expectations etc. and are put into groups;
- staff going on the trip are also briefed about activities, expectations; risk assessments are shared
- staff will take a school mobile phone, a portable first aid kit, information about the specific medical needs of learners along with the parents' contact details;
- there will always be at least one first aider on school trips and visits.

## 12. Mobile Phones & Smart Watches

- The use of mobile phones by learners is prohibited.
- Staff working onsite should store their phones out of sight and not use them in the presence of learners.
- Staff working offsite use their phones for safeguarding reason (refer to one working practices) and in emergencies.
- Phones and/or smart watches with cameras must not be used.

## 13. Violence at work

We believe that staff should not be in any danger at work, and will not tolerate violent or threatening behaviour towards our staff. All staff will report any incidents of aggression or violence (or near misses) directed to themselves to their line manager/headteacher immediately. This applies to violence from learners, visitors or other staff.

## 14. Smoking

Smoking and the use of e-cigarettes is prohibited on the school premises, including car parks and during school trips/visits. It is also prohibited when driving a private vehicle in connection with authorised school/Trust journeys including transporting colleagues, learners and/or their parents/carers.

## 15. Infection prevention and control

We follow national guidance published by Public Health England (PHE) when responding to infection control issues. We will encourage staff and learners to follow this good hygiene practice, outlined below, where applicable.

### 15.1 Handwashing

- Wash hands with liquid soap and warm water, and dry with paper towels. Infographics showing good handwashing techniques are displayed near all wash handbasins.
- Always wash hands after using the toilet, before eating or handling food, and after handling animals.
- Cover all cuts and abrasions with waterproof dressings.

### 15.2 Coughing and sneezing

- Cover mouth and nose with a tissue, or in the crook of the elbow if no tissue is available.
- Wash hands after using or disposing of tissues. Catch it; Kill it; Bin it infographics are displayed around the site.
- Spitting is discouraged; learners caught spitting are dealt with through the Behaviour Policy.

### 15.3 Personal protective equipment

- Wear disposable non-powdered vinyl or latex-free CE-marked gloves and disposable plastic aprons where there is a risk of splashing or contamination with blood/body fluids;
- Wear goggles if there is a risk of splashing to the face;

- Use the correct personal protective equipment when handling cleaning chemicals.

#### 15.4 General Housekeeping

The sites are cleaned frequently and thoroughly.

Staff should follow the methods statements provided for all cleaning activities.

All materials and equipment must be put away and stored safely after use. Cleaning, maintenance and repair activities are not usually carried out when learners are present.

All walkways, paths, stairways etc. must remain clean and clear of obstructions to provide a safe means of access/egress.

#### 15.5 Cleaning of blood and body fluid spillages

Staff follow the methods statement provided and clean up all spillages of blood, faeces, saliva, vomit, nasal and eye discharges immediately and wear personal protective equipment.

When spillages occur, clean using a product that combines both a detergent and a disinfectant and use as per manufacturer's instructions. Ensure it is effective against bacteria and viruses and suitable for use on the affected surface.

Staff never use mops for cleaning up blood and body fluid spillages – they use disposable paper towels and discard clinical waste as described below.

Spillage kits are available for blood spills.

#### 15.6 Laundry

Laundry undertaken onsite is limited to:

- cleaning cloths which are washed in a machine in the cleaners cupboard;
- dish cloths and tea towels used in cooking lessons and the staffroom kitchenette which are washed in washing machines in the respective venues.

Staff wear personal protective clothing when handling soiled items and bag children's soiled clothing to be sent home – they are not laundered in school.

#### 15.7 Clinical waste

- Always segregate domestic and clinical waste, in accordance with local policy.
- Used nappies/pads, gloves, aprons and soiled dressings are stored in correct clinical waste bags in foot-operated bins.
- Remove clinical waste with a registered waste contractor.
- Remove all clinical waste bags when they are two-thirds full and store in a dedicated, secure area while awaiting collection.

#### 15.8 Animals

We do not have resident animals on either site, but we do occasionally have visits to/from small animals.

- Wash hands before and after handling any animals.
- Keep animals' living quarters clean and away from food areas.
- Dispose of animal waste regularly, and keep litter boxes away from learners.
- Supervise learners when playing with animals.

- Seek veterinary advice on animal welfare and animal health issues, and the suitability of the animal as a pet.

### 15.9 Learners vulnerable to infection

Some medical conditions make learners vulnerable to infections that would rarely be serious in most children. The school will normally have been made aware of such vulnerable children. These children are particularly vulnerable to chickenpox, measles or slapped cheek disease (parvovirus B19) and, if exposed to either of these, the parent/carer will be informed promptly and further medical advice sought. We will advise these children to have additional immunisations, for example for pneumococcal and influenza.

### 15.10 Exclusion periods for infectious diseases

The school will follow recommended exclusion periods outlined by Public Health England, summarised in Appendix 1.

In the event of an epidemic/pandemic, we will follow advice from Public Health England about the appropriate course of action.

## 16. Transport

At all times, whenever vehicle transport is required to be used by learners and/or staff, all passengers regardless of age are provided with one seat and seat belts must be worn. Boost seats are provided for those learners that require them.

Private hire vehicles are only used from registered companies with appropriate insurance. All private hire vehicles must comply with seat belt legislation.

When staff are using their own cars, they must provide a copy of their insurance and, if relevant the vehicles MOT certificate. Any staff driving on behalf of school must also provide a copy of their valid driving licence to the School Business Manager.

## 17. New and expectant mothers

Risk assessments are carried out whenever any employee or learner notifies the school that they are pregnant. Appropriate measures will be put in place to control risks identified. Some specific risks are summarised below:

- chickenpox can affect the pregnancy if a woman has not already had the infection. Expectant mothers should report exposure to antenatal carer and GP at any stage of exposure;
- shingles is caused by the same virus as chickenpox, so anyone who has not had chickenpox is potentially vulnerable to the infection if they have close contact with a case of shingles;
- If a pregnant woman comes into contact with measles or German measles (rubella), she should inform her antenatal carer and GP immediately to ensure investigation;
- Slapped cheek disease (parvovirus B19) can occasionally affect an unborn child. If exposed early in pregnancy (before 20 weeks), the pregnant woman should inform her antenatal care and GP as this must be investigated promptly.

## 18. Occupational stress

We are committed to promoting high levels of health and wellbeing and recognise the importance of identifying and reducing workplace stressors through risk assessment.

Systems are in place within the school for responding to individual concerns and monitoring staff workloads. The Trust provides an employee assistance programme free to all employees; the internal Staff Portal provides access to HR advice and guidance; TTAPA has a Mental Health & Wellbeing Policy that applies to all members of the school community.

Regular CPD is available to staff to manage their mental wellbeing. All staff have access to a trained onsite counsellor. Stress Risk Assessments are undertaken on a needs-led basis.

## 19. Accident reporting

### 19.1 Accident record book

An accident form will be completed as soon as possible after the accident occurs by the member of staff or first aider who deals with it.

- record as much detail as possible when reporting the accident;
- information about injuries are also kept in the learner's educational record.

Records held in the first aid and accident book will be retained by the school for a minimum of 3 years, in accordance with regulation 25 of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979, and then securely disposed of.

### 19.2 Reporting to the Health and Safety Executive

The School Business Manager will keep a record of any accident which results in a reportable injury, disease, or dangerous occurrence as defined in the RIDDOR 2013 legislation (regulations 4, 5, 6 and 7).

The School Business Manager will report these to the Health and Safety Executive as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within 10 days of the incident.

Reportable injuries, diseases or dangerous occurrences include:

- death;
- specified injuries including
  - amputations;
  - fractures, other than to fingers, thumbs and toes;
  - any injury likely to lead to permanent loss of sight or reduction in sight;
  - any crush injury to the head/torso causing damage to the brain/internal organs
  - serious burns (including scalding);
- any scalping requiring hospital treatment;
- any loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia;

- any other injury arising from working in an enclosed space which leads to hypothermia or heat-induced illness, or requires resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours.
  - injuries where an employee is away from work or unable to perform their normal work duties for more than 7 consecutive days;
  - where an accident leads to someone being taken to hospital;
  - where something happens that does not result in an injury, but could have done;
  - near-miss events that do not result in an injury, but could have done.
- Examples of near-miss events relevant to schools include, but are not limited to:
- the collapse or failure of load-bearing parts of lifts and lifting equipment;
  - the accidental release of a biological agent likely to cause severe human illness;
  - the accidental release or escape of any substance that may cause a serious injury or damage to health;
  - an electrical short circuit or overload causing a fire or explosion.

Information on how to make a RIDDOR report is available here:

How to make a RIDDOR report – <http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/report.htm>

### 19.3 Notifying parents

The Pastoral Manager / incident lead will inform parents of any accident or injury sustained by a learner and any first aid treatment given, on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable.

### 19.4 Reporting to child protection agencies

The Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead will notify the CEO of the Trust, the director of Education and the Designated LA Officer of any serious accident or injury to, or the death of, a learner while in the school's care.

### 19.5 Reporting to Ofsted

The CEO will notify Ofsted of any serious accident, illness or injury to, or death of, a learner while in the school's care. This will happen as soon as is reasonably practicable, and no later than 14 days after the incident.

### 19.6 Reporting to Governors & Trustees

Termly reports of the number of accidents and any lessons learned that change procedures or practice are reported to governors termly, and Trustees annually.

## 20. Training

Our staff are provided with health and safety training as part of their induction process.

All staff employed at TTAPA receive appropriate instruction and training to carry out all tasks/activities required of them. Staff who work in high risk environments or work

with high risk learners including any with special educational needs (SEN), are given additional health and safety training.

## **21. Lettings**

This policy applies to lettings. Those who hire any aspect of the school site or any facilities will be made aware of the content of the school's health and safety policy, and will have responsibility for complying with it.

## **22. Monitoring**

This policy will be reviewed by the Headteacher every 2 years.

At every review, the policy will be approved by the Local Governing Body and shared with Trustees.

## **22. Links with other policies**

This health and safety policy links to the following policies & procedures/protocols:

- Accessibility plan
- First aid
- Mobile Phone protocols
- Premises Management Procedures
- Risk assessment
- School Security Guidance
- Supporting learners with medical conditions
- Uniform expectations of learners and staff dress code
- Visitor Procedures

## Appendix 1: Recommended absence period for preventing the spread of infection

This list of recommended absence periods for preventing the spread of infection is taken from non-statutory guidance for schools and other childcare settings from Public Health England. For each of these infections or complaints, there [is further information in the guidance on the symptoms, how it spreads and some 'do's and don'ts' to follow that you can check.](#)

Infection or complaint	Recommended period to be kept away from school or nursery
<b>Athlete's foot</b>	None.
<b>Campylobacter</b>	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
<b>Chicken pox (shingles)</b>	<p>Cases of chickenpox are generally infectious from 2 days before the rash appears to 5 days after the onset of rash. Although the usual exclusion period is 5 days, all lesions should be crusted over before children return to nursery or school.</p> <p>A person with shingles is infectious to those who have not had chickenpox and should be excluded from school if the rash is weeping and cannot be covered or until the rash is dry and crusted over.</p>
<b>Cold sores</b>	None.
<b>Rubella (German measles)</b>	5 days from appearance of the rash.
<b>Hand, foot and mouth</b>	Children are safe to return to school or nursery as soon as they are feeling better, there is no need to stay off until the blisters have all healed.
<b>Impetigo</b>	Until lesions are crusted and healed, or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.
<b>Measles</b>	Cases are infectious from 4 days before onset of rash to 4 days after so it is important to ensure cases are excluded from school during this period.
<b>Ringworm</b>	Exclusion not needed once treatment has started.
<b>Scabies</b>	The infected child or staff member should be excluded until after the first treatment has been carried out.

<b>Scarlet fever</b>	Children can return to school 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment. If no antibiotics have been administered the person will be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. If there is an outbreak of scarlet fever at the school or nursery, the health protection team will assist with letters and factsheet to send to parents or carers and staff.
<b>Slapped cheek syndrome, Parvovirus B19, Fifth's disease</b>	None (not infectious by the time the rash has developed).
<b>Bacillary Dysentery (Shigella)</b>	Microbiological clearance is required for some types of shigella species prior to the child or food handler returning to school.
<b>Diarrhoea and/or vomiting (Gastroenteritis)</b>	<p>Children and adults with diarrhoea or vomiting should be excluded until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped and they are well enough to return. If medication is prescribed, ensure that the full course is completed and there is no further diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours after the course is completed.</p> <p>For some gastrointestinal infections, longer periods of exclusion from school are required and there may be a need to obtain microbiological clearance. For these groups, your local health protection team, school health advisor or environmental health officer will advise.</p> <p>If a child has been diagnosed with cryptosporidium, they should NOT go swimming for 2 weeks following the last episode of diarrhoea.</p>
<b>Cryptosporidiosis</b>	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
<b>E. coli (verocytotoxigenic or VTEC)</b>	The standard exclusion period is until 48 hours after symptoms have resolved. However, some people pose a greater risk to others and may be excluded until they have a negative stool sample (for example, pre-school infants, food handlers, and care staff working with vulnerable people). The health protection team will advise in these instances.
<b>Food poisoning</b>	Until 48 hours from the last episode of vomiting and diarrhoea and they are well enough to return. Some infections may require longer periods (local health protection team will advise).

<b>Salmonella</b>	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
<b>Typhoid and Paratyphoid fever</b>	Seek advice from environmental health officers or the local health protection team.
<b>Flu (influenza)</b>	Until recovered.
<b>Tuberculosis (TB)</b>	Learners and staff with infectious TB can return to school after 2 weeks of treatment if well enough to do so and as long as they have responded to anti-TB therapy. Learners and staff with non-pulmonary TB do not require exclusion and can return to school as soon as they are well enough.
<b>Whooping cough (pertussis)</b>	A child or staff member should not return to school until they have had 48 hours of appropriate treatment with antibiotics and they feel well enough to do so or 21 days from onset of illness if no antibiotic treatment.
<b>Conjunctivitis</b>	None.
<b>Giardia</b>	Until 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.
<b>Glandular fever</b>	None (can return once they feel well).
<b>Head lice</b>	None.
<b>Hepatitis A</b>	Exclude cases from school while unwell or until 7 days after the onset of jaundice (or onset of symptoms if no jaundice, or if under 5, or where hygiene is poor. There is no need to exclude well, older children with good hygiene who will have been much more infectious prior to diagnosis.
<b>Hepatitis B</b>	Acute cases of hepatitis B will be too ill to attend school and their doctors will advise when they can return. Do not exclude chronic cases of hepatitis B or restrict their activities. Similarly, do not exclude staff with chronic hepatitis B infection. Contact your local health protection team for more advice if required.
<b>Hepatitis C</b>	None.
<b>Meningococcal meningitis/</b>	If the child has been treated and has recovered, they can return to school.

<b>septicaemia</b>	
<b>Meningitis</b>	Once the child has been treated (if necessary) and has recovered, they can return to school. No exclusion is needed.
<b>Meningitis viral</b>	None.
<b>MRSA (meticillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus)</b>	None.
<b>Mumps</b>	5 days after onset of swelling (if well).
<b>Threadworm</b>	None.
<b>Rotavirus</b>	Until 48 hours after symptoms have subsided.