



EXCLUSION PERIODS FOR ILLNESS OR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

These are recommended periods of absence from nursery for common illnesses/diseases. This is issued by the Health Protection Agency to help prevent the spread of infections. For further information, please refer to:

<http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/guidance-infection-control-schools-and-other-childcare-settings-0>

Disease or illness	Minimal exclusion period/comments
Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.
Temperature	Until temperature is normal for 24 hours.
Conjunctivitis	Keep at home for 2 days; thereafter until eyes are no longer weeping (treatment required from GP).
Gastroenteritis, food poisoning, salmonellosis and dysentery	Until authorised by GP.
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted or healed.
Head lice	Until appropriate treatment is given. Treatment is recommended only in cases where live lice have definitely been seen. Close contacts should be checked and treated if live lice are found. Regular detection (combing) should be carried out by parents.
Ringworm of scalp or body	Until treatment commenced. Treatment is important and available from pharmacist. NB for ringworm of scalp, treatment by GP is required. Also check and treat symptomatic pets.
Scabies	Child can return after first treatment. Two treatments 1 week apart for cases. Contacts should have one treatment; include entire household and any other very close contacts.
Chicken pox	5 days from onset of rash. Spots must be dry and scabbed.
Measles*	5 days from onset of rash. Preventable by vaccination (MMR x 2)
Meningococcal meningitis*/septicaemia*	Until recovered. Meningitis C is preventable by vaccination.
Mumps*	5 days from onset of swollen glands and until swelling has subsided. Preventable by vaccination (MMR x 2)
Ineffective hepatitis	7 days from onset of jaundice
Rubella (German measles)*	5 days from onset of rash. Preventable by vaccination (MMR x 2)
Scarlet fever*	5 days after commencing antibiotics.
Streptococcal infection of the throat	5 days after commencing antibiotics.
Tuberculosis*	Until declared free by GP
Typhoid fever*	Until declared free by GP
Slapped cheek	No need to exclude but please inform nursery.

* denotes a notifiable disease by doctors to the relevant authorities.