

Tuesday 19th September 2023

Dear parent/carer

The Department for Education (DfE) has provided headteachers and school leaders with a clinical and public health perspective on mild illnesses and school attendance.

There is wide agreement among health professionals and educational professionals that school attendance is vital to the life chances of children and young people. Being in school improves health, wellbeing and socialisation throughout the life course. The greatest benefits come from children and young people attending school regularly.

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. We would encourage you to click on the link [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#) for further advice and support.

Yours faithfully

Tahreena Ward
Principal