

4.09 Notifiable Diseases Plan

- a) The following diseases are notifiable (The Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, schedule 1).

Acute encephalitis	Malaria
Acute infectious hepatitis	Measles
Acute meningitis	Meningococcal septicaemia
Acute poliomyelitis	Mumps
Anthrax	Plague
Botulism	Rabies
Brucellosis	Rubella
Cholera	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
Diphtheria	Scarlet fever
Enteric fever (typhoid or paratyphoid fever)	Smallpox
Food poisoning	Tetanus
Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS)	Tuberculosis
Infectious bloody diarrhoea	Typhus
Invasive group A streptococcal disease	Viral haemorrhagic fever (VHF)
Legionnaires' disease	Whooping cough
Leprosy	Yellow fever

- b) Children and staff who are affected and show signs and symptoms of the notifiable disease should be sent home immediately or cared for separately if there is a delay. In all cases, parents should be advised to take the child to a medical practitioner for assessment and suitable treatment. They should not return to school until you have been advised by health professionals that it is safe for them to do so.
- c) In the event of an occurrence of a notifiable disease or serious illness in the school, the Headteacher will notify the LA who will, if required:
- Alert the LA Emergency Planning Officer, Safety Officer, Environmental Health Officer and Public Health
 - Arrange for the appropriate health professionals to become involved and give advice
 - Where necessary will circulate information to other schools to minimise the risk of the disease or illness spreading
 - Alert the LA Communications Team to assist the school with media enquiries
 - Alert the school meals catering contractor, where this is relevant
 - Consider requests from the school for additional support (e.g. staffing or finance)
- d) The nature of the advice given by the health professionals will depend on the type and seriousness of the illness, and whether it is an isolated case or an incident

involving multiple cases. But in general terms it will include guidance to the school on:

- what the health authority will do,
 - what the school should do,
 - what advice should be given to parents/carers.
- e) Further Information: [Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and Other Childcare Settings](#) issued by Public Health England
- f) The school will take the advice of the health professionals and manage the incident by:
- Nominating a member of staff to liaise with the other relevant parties.
 - Guided by the health professionals, provide information to parents/carers and other site users advising them of the incident, of the action the school is taking and what action parents/carers and families need to take.
 - Keeping suitable records of current, new and suspected pupil cases including ages and numbers by class, date of commencement of illness, details of any other family members known to be affected and when the symptoms ended.
 - Keeping similar records in respect of members of staff and other site users.
 - Following the advice of the health professionals by implementing relevant control measures required to minimise the risks of spreading the infection which could include:
 - Instigating any additional cleaning/disinfection regimes where required.
 - Applying any necessary 'exclusion' of cases to prevent the spread of the disease or illness.
 - Ceasing use of drinking water fountains, water play cooking lessons where food is consumed.
 - Temporarily closing school kitchens.
 - Undertaking hygienic cleaning as required
 - Implementing enhanced hygiene procedures such as hand washing etc.



g) Outbreaks

An outbreak is defined as 2 or more linked cases with similar symptoms (or a notifiable disease) than would normally be expected, such as:

- 2 or more cases of diarrhoea or vomiting or both
- scabies
- scarlet fever
- impetigo

Schools should contact the Health Protection Team on 0344 225 3861 (option 4 & option 1) as soon as they suspect an outbreak to discuss the situation and agree if any actions are needed.

It is useful to have the information listed below available before this discussion as it will help to inform the size and nature of the outbreak:

- total numbers affected (staff and children)
- symptoms
- date(s) when symptoms started
- number of classes affected

- h) The response to a more widespread serious communicable disease or illness such as a flu pandemic will be likely to be managed by the Department of Health advised by Public Health England at a regional or national level. LA will receive medical advice and instructions from the government as the situation develops and will pass these on to schools. In such a situation it is unlikely that action would be required on the part of individual schools, as all schools in the Borough, County and region will be likely to be equally affected and the advice and guidance issued would be likely to apply to all.
- i) Experience has shown that some parents/carers may decide to keep their children away from school if they believe they are at risk of becoming ill, despite medical advice or guidance to the contrary. The school will ensure that any medical advice passed on to parents/carers is in written form and simple to understand. Help on the wording of the letter should be obtained through Public Health England.