



Policy: Sick Child

Academic Year 2023 - 2024

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Written By:	SLT
Approved by the Principal:	
Approved by Management Representative:	
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Vision: To be a welcoming and diverse international school that nurtures students to acquire, articulate and establish the necessary skills and knowledge to become a citizen in a global environment.

Mission: To create an inclusive environment of responsibility, respect and tolerance, based on Qatari values, for all members of the school community. To deliver an in-depth consistent learning program, which provides opportunities to display their learnings.

Objectives:

Spectra Global School is committed to:

1. To create a learning environment that inspires curiosity, passion, and motivation among students
2. To implement instructional strategies that develop problem-solving skills and encourage their application in various contexts
3. To promote a growth mindset that encourages students to embrace challenges and view mistakes as opportunities for growth
4. To cultivate a nurturing and inclusive school culture that promotes the importance of respect, responsibility, and tolerance.
5. To embrace and promote Qatari, Arabic, and Islamic Values to foster cultural awareness and pride and apply these in their interactions with others
6. To deliver a curriculum that is rich and relevant, which equips students for their further education and for life
7. To nurture collaborative partnerships with parents to actively support and enhance students' learning and overall growth throughout their educational journey
8. To engage and contribute to both the local and global communities, fostering a sense of empathy and making a meaningful difference in the world

Rational

In the interest of maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment, Spectra Global School's Sick Child Policy is designed to address the well-being and care of our students when they fall ill during school hours. It sets forth clear guidelines for parents, teachers, and school staff to follow, ensuring that children's health is prioritised while minimising the risk of contagious illnesses spreading within our school community. This policy aims to strike a balance between providing necessary care for unwell children and upholding the overall well-being of our students and staff.

Purpose

This policy ensures the health and safety of our students by providing clear guidelines for managing and supporting sick children within the school premises. It also helps to prevent the spread of contagious illnesses and maintains a clean, safe learning environment for all. It also outlines procedures for notifying parents, ensuring appropriate care, and facilitating the student's return to school once they have recovered.

Under no circumstances may a parent bring a sick child to school, if the child shows any signs of illness see (SYMPTOMS REQUIRING REMOVING OF CHILD FROM SCHOOL), or is unable to participate in the normal routine and regular day school day. Sick children will expose all children and staff members who they come in contact with. These people can in turn expose the other children. If other children become ill due to exposure to your sick child, either because he/she was returned to school before full recovery or because he/she was not picked up promptly upon notice of becoming ill, other parents will be unnecessarily inconvenienced. Because this is disruptive to other children and their families, your cooperation on this issue is extremely important.

When should Parents Keep their child at home?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they're unwell. If you are unsure and require support, please contact the school directly and the school nurse will be able to guide and assist you.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to do the following:

1. Send a message to your child's class teacher via Class Dojo informing the teacher about the situation.
2. Telephone the school on the first day (**4481 3278 / 6653 4333**), and let the Receptionist know that the child won't be in, and give the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or common cold, let their teacher know.

Contact Process:

In the event a child becomes ill during the school day and needs to be picked up, the parent(s) will be called and are expected to come pick the child up within one hour (60 minutes). If the parent(s) cannot be reached, or have not arrived within an hour, the emergency contact person will be called and asked to come pick the child up. The child will remain with the school nurse until they are collected.

Should the listed persons on the Emergency Contact Numbers list not respond to attempts to reach them, then the school will exercise the option to contact the school's local Doctor-on-call, for advice or diagnosis.

The School Management, upon the recommendation of the School Nurse, will contact the local Emergency Services to deal with any issues that cannot be dealt with directly in the school clinic, or may be deemed to be outside the scope of care that the school nurses can provide.

Isolation:

Where the need arises, the Nurses will isolate a child from others to:

- Prevent the Spread of Infection,
- Minimise the impact of the child's condition on those around him/her
- Provide and protect the child's privacy and dignity

Please note that any medical isolation within the school, is a temporary measure only and will only be done while the child is waiting to be collected from the premises by an authorised person/s. This Isolation should not exceed a period of 2 hours, or what would be deemed reasonable time limit to allow the parent/driver to collect the child from the school.

Return to school:

In any case where a child was kept off school for a serious medical condition/reason, the parent must ensure that child is deemed medically fit to return to school, by providing an official note from a medical practitioner, which must be verified by the school Nurse.

It is in the best interests of the child and of the school, that parents do not send children to school that have not fully recovered from any ailment or condition

Symptoms requiring removal of child from school:

Parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child from the school if they are experiencing or suffering from any of the following symptoms:

- **Fever:**
Any case where a child has a temperature of **37.7°C/100°F** or higher taken under the arm, or **38.3°C/101°F** taken orally

- **Fever AND sore throat:**
 Any instance where a child has a combination of fever and sore throat or coughing, runny nose, etc. (Suspected Influenza, Covid 19, Viral Infections, etc.)
- **Hives or Allergic Reactions:**
 Instance where children may suffer from allergic reactions to environmental or other allergenic stimuli
- **Contagious/Infectious Illnesses/Diseases**
 Wherever a child is suspected of having an illness that could be passed on or spread to other members of the school community. (Mumps, measles, Chicken Pox, Hand Foot & Mouth, etc.)
- **Earache:**
 Any Cases where children have suspected infections or injuries
- **Diarrhoea:**
 Runny, watery, bloody stools, or 2 or more loose stools within last 4 hours. Children with diarrhoea should **stay away from school for 2 days after their symptoms have gone.**
- **Vomiting:**
 Extreme Nausea or vomiting 2 or more times in a 24 hour period. Children with sickness **should stay away from school for 2 days after their symptoms have gone.**
- **Dehydration or Sun-Stroke**
 Any instance where a child requires specialist medical treatment for hypo, or hyperthermia
- **Breathing trouble:**
 Asthma attacks, sore throat, swollen glands, loss of voice, hacking or continuous coughing.
- **Frequent scratching of body or scalp**
 Severe cases of eczema that may require medical intervention
- **Headlice:**
 A living, moving louse is found in a child's head. Children must be deemed infestation free by the nurse, before they will be allowed back into class.
- **Rashes:**
 Any rash, or any other spots that resemble childhood diseases, including ringworm.

- **Injury**

Any suspected injuries that are not classed as minor, and would require examination and attention from a doctor, or Hospital Emergency Room. These could include suspected sprains, fractures or breaks, cuts, severe nose-bleeds, etc.

- **Head or Neck Injury**

Any case resulting from some form of forced trauma, knocks, falls, etc. where a suspected head or neck injury could occur.

Records

When a student receives medical attention during the school day, the school nurse will record the details in the student planner's nurse log. It is essential for parents to review the planner daily and provide their acknowledgment by signing it after reading the log.

In cases of more significant injuries like head bumps or serious cuts and grazes, the nurse will promptly contact parents, while minor bumps and injuries will not trigger parental notification by phone.

The nurse compiles a daily report summarising all nurse visits, which is shared with the senior leadership team and Social Worker for ongoing monitoring and documentation.

At the beginning of each academic year, the school requires all parents to complete a medical form and notify the school of any changes to their child's health as well as provide up to date emergency contact numbers. Parents are required to notify the school immediately if any medical details require updating or if emergency contact details change.