



Did You Know?

If your child suffers from an illness that is infectious, contagious or harmful to others at school, you should keep your child at home until they are better.



Keep your child at home

Keeping your child at home is in the best interests of your child and the other children in the school whose health could also be affected. The Principal may ask you to temporarily remove your child from school if they present with symptoms which are deemed to be infectious, contagious or harmful.

If there is an outbreak of vaccine preventable diseases such as rubella, measles, mumps or whooping cough in the community and your child has not been vaccinated against it, you will be asked to keep your child home from school until the outbreak is over to ensure they are not put at unnecessary risk of being infected. You may also seek medical advice as to how to prevent your child from becoming infected.

Where to start

- If your child is too sick to go to school, it is important to tell the school and provide the reason for your child's absence. You can:
 - a. Complete form on website
 - b. Email the school
 - c. Telephone the School Office
- The Principal requires a doctor certificate to explain an extended absence for illness more than 5 days.
- You should tell the school if your child has an illness that may be passed on to other students so that the absence can be recorded and the health of other children monitored.
- A doctor clearance is required if a child with persistent and lingering symptoms wants to return to school. This certificate must state that symptoms are no longer infectious, contagious or harmful to others.





If your child becomes unwell at school

If your child becomes ill or is injured whilst at school, the school will contact you and seek the necessary medical attention.

The best place for students to be if they are unwell is at home.

In the event of an emergency, your child may be moved to a safe place for appropriate care or treatment without prior permission. This may be by ambulance or other form of transportation.

It is very important for you to keep the school updated about any medical conditions or allergies that your child may have, and that you keep the school informed of correct contact numbers for yourself and your child's doctor.

Our schools keep records of accidents and follow guidelines for dealing with them and for removing any dangers.

Where can I get more information?

- Talk to your child's teacher or principal
- Public Health Hotline – Tasmania **1800 671 73**
- You can find information about infectious diseases on the Department of Health website: dhhs.tas.gov.au/publichealth

The advice provided in this document is based on the *Infectious Diseases in Tasmanian Government Schools*, fact sheet.



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