

What to do - Advice on childhood illnesses

Go to school;
if needed get
treatment as
shown

Can be
catching. Some
restrictions
for school
attendance

Don't go to
school and see
the GP

What it's called	What it's like	Going to school	Getting treatment	More advice
Chicken Pox	Rash begins as small, red, flat spots that develop into itchy fluid-filled blisters		Pharmacy	Back to school 5 days after onset of the rash
Common Cold	Runny nose, sneezing, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Conjunctivitis	Teary, red, itchy, painful eye(s)		Pharmacy	Try not to touch eye to avoid spreading
Flu	Fever, cough, sneezing, runny nose, headache body aches and pain, exhaustion, sore throat		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
German measles	Fever, tiredness. Raised, red, rash that starts on the face and spreads downwards.		G.P.	Back to school 6 days from onset of rash
Glandular fever	high temperature, sore throat; usually more painful than any before and swollen glands		G.P.	Child needs to be physically able to concentrate
Hand, foot & mouth disease	Fever, sore throat, headache, small painful blisters inside the mouth on tongue and gums (may appear on hands and feet)		G.P.	Only need to stay off if feeling too ill for school
Head lice	Itchy scalp (may be worse at night)		Pharmacy	
Impetigo	Clusters of red bumps or blisters surrounded by area of redness		G.P.	Back to school when lesions crust or 48 hours after start of antibiotics
Measles	Fever, cough, runny nose, and watery inflamed eyes. Small red spots with white or bluish white centres in the mouth, red, blotchy rash		G.P.	Back to school 4 days from onset of rash
Ringworm	Red ring shaped rash, may be itchy rash may be dry and scaly or wet and crusty		G.P.	
Scabies	Intense itching, pimple – like rash Itching and rash may be all over the body but commonly between the fingers, wrists, elbows, arm		G.P.	Back to school after first treatment
Shingles	Pain, itching, or tingling along the affected nerve pathway. Blister-type rash		G.P.	Only stay off school if rash is weeping and cannot be covered
Sickness bug/ diarrhoea	Stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea		Pharmacy	See GP if symptoms persist after 48 hours
Threadworms	Intense itchiness around anus		Pharmacy	Ensure good hand hygiene
Tonsillitis	Intense Sore throat		Pharmacy	See GP if temperature lasts more than 48 hours or cannot swallow
Whooping cough	Violent coughing, over and over, until child inhales with “whooping” sound to get air into lungs		G.P.	Back to school after 5 days of antibiotics or 21 days from onset of illness

See www.patient.info for further information on each of these conditions

This information is a guide and has been checked by health professionals however, if you are unsure about your child's wellbeing we recommend you contact your pharmacy or GP to check.