



Lessness Heath Primary School

Erith Road, Belvedere, Kent. DA17 6HB
Tel: 01322 433290

Head Teacher - Mrs K O'Connor
Deputy Head Teacher - Mrs L Shields

Respect Belonging Co-operation Honesty Perseverance Responsibility

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I'd like to thank you for ensuring your children are coming to school every day and on time; we've already noticed a huge improvement in attendance and punctuality overall. We are always striving to improve, and want the best outcomes for all of our pupils and for the children to establish good habits for later life.

Please find attached a health flyer, 'Should I send my child to school?' which was written in line with NHS guidance to schools and explains which illnesses require time to be taken off school. Of course, we cannot help when our children are sick but they should still be attending school if they are simply feeling 'under the weather'. Getting your child to school is the most important factor in ensuring they are not losing learning time or falling behind academically and we will, of course, call you to arrange their collection if they are obviously struggling to participate in school activities.

At Lessness Heath we embrace achievement in every area, which now encompasses attendance. We will be continuing to reward whole classes for weekly attendance and, at the end of each week, will continue to reward the Nursery children who have attended every available session, with a balloon.

We also wish to recognise the good attendance of individual children, for which we will award termly rewards for those with 96% attendance or above (those with 100% will also receive an additional award).

I would also like to inform you that a new Attendance policy will soon be available to view on the website, detailing both the schools and Local Authorities procedures.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Miss Ann Marie Bolton

Assistant Head Teacher



Should I send my child to school?

<p>Fever</p> <p>Fever usually means illness, especially if your child has a fever of 38° C or higher as well as other symptoms like behaviour change, rash, sore throat, vomiting etc.</p>	<p>NO – If your child has a fever of 38C or higher keep them at home and follow NHS guidance/consult a health care provider as necessary.</p>
<p>Diarrhoea</p> <p>Frequent, loose or watery stool may mean illness but can also be caused by food and medication.</p>	<p>NO – Keep your child at home for 48 hours from the last episode. If stool is bloody, if the child has abdominal pain, fever or vomiting, you should consult a health care provider.</p>
<p>Vomiting</p>	<p>NO – Keep your child at home for 48 hours from the last episode. If vomiting continues, contact a health care provider.</p>
<p>Severe Coughing</p> <p>Severe, uncontrolled, rapid coughing, wheezing or difficulty breathing.</p>	<p>NO – Keep your child home until a health care provider. Asthma – if symptoms are due to Asthma, provide treatment according to your prescription and when symptoms are controlled send your child to school.</p>
<p>Rash</p>	<p>NO – If a rash spreads quickly, is not healing, or has open weeping wounds, you should keep your child at home and have him or her seen by a health care provider</p>
<p>Vaccine – Preventable Diseases</p> <p>Chicken Pox – fever, headache, stomach ache or sore throat, then a red itchy skin rash develops on the stomach first and then limbs and face.</p> <p>Measles and Rubella(German Measles) Swollen glands, rash that starts behind the ears then the face and the rest of the body, sore joints, mild fever and cough and red eyes.</p> <p>Mumps – fever, headache, muscle aches, loss of appetite, swollen tender salivary glands.</p> <p>Pertussis (whooping Cough) – many rapid coughs followed by a high-pitched “whoop”, vomiting, very tired.</p> <p>Slapped Cheek (Fifth Disease/Parvovirus B19) Bright red rash on cheeks</p>	<p>NO – Keep your child at home until a health care provider has determined that your child is not contagious.</p> <p>Please also CONTACT THE SCHOOL ASAP so that parents/staff are aware as many of these diseases are a risk to pregnant women.</p>



<p>Parent is Sick, Stressed, Hospitalised</p>	<p>YES-If you are sick, your child still needs to attend school. Your illness does not excuse your child from attending. We are all sick at times so plan ahead for these days. Get a neighbour, relative or spouse to take your child to school and pick him or her up. *In exceptional circumstances, we may be able to help get your child to school – please contact Miss Bolton or the office.</p>
<p>Chronic Diseases (Asthma, Diabetes, sickle-Cell, Epilepsy etc)</p> <p>Chronic disease is a long-lasting condition that can be controlled but not cured.</p>	<p>YES – Your child should attend school. Our team are trained to assist your child with his or her chronic disease and associated needs.</p>
<p>Child doesn't want to go to school</p> <p>Frequent crying, fear, anger, not wanting to socialise, behavior change, stomach ache, nausea.</p>	<p>YES – You should keep your child in school, but try to determine what is causing the changes. Talk to our team; your child may be experiencing separation anxiety or be worried about their work or friendships – we can often help!</p>
<p>Cold Symptoms</p> <p>Stuffy/runny nose, sneezing, mild cough.</p>	<p>YES – If your child is able to participate in school activities, send him or her to school. You can also pop in to administer Calpol at any time (regrettably, we are unable to do so).</p>
<p>Conjunctivitis (Pink eye)</p> <p>The white of the eye is pink and there is thick yellow/green discharge.</p>	<p>YES – Your child can attend school, but call a health care provider to prescribe medication/treatment.</p>
<p>Head Lice</p> <p>Intense itching of the head; may feel like something is moving.</p>	<p>YES – Your child can be in school if he or she has had an initial treatment of shampooing of hair with a product for lice. PLEASE INFORM THE SCHOOL ASAP- this will be treated confidentially and allow others to check their children.</p>
<p>Threadworms</p> <p>Sometimes cause itchiness around the bottom, which can be worse at night and disturb sleep</p>	<p>YES – Treatment is recommended for the child and household contacts.</p>
<p>Tonsillitis</p>	<p>YES – There are many causes, but most cases are due to viruses and do not need an antibiotic.</p>
<p>Warts and Verrucae</p>	<p>YES</p>