

Sick and Recovering Students

Procedures

Purpose:

- The school's sick and recovering policy enables the school to implement duty of care to students and staff by reducing cross infection.
- The Principal reserves the right to ask parents/carers to keep their child at home. Any decision in this regard will, if possible, be made in consultation with DEC Student Health in Public Schools Policy, Hunter New England Health providers, carers, parents and where permission is granted medical practitioners.

Aims:

- **To reduce the risk of infection to students and staff members;**
- To ensure a safe and healthy working and learning environment for all;
- To enable students who are not completely well, to regain their health to be able to function in the school environment;
- To reduce the impact of sick and recovering students on others who may have fragile health and are therefore at a higher risk of cross infection;
- To ensure those students who require full assistance with blowing and clearing of mucus or an inability to cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing are in an environment where this assistance can be given on a full time basis.

Management Process:

Parents/Carers will be notified of this policy on its implementation.

Communication will be via newsletter at the commencement of each year or as deemed necessary. It is published on the Lakeside website and in the booklet for new student enrolments. A record of illness days is recorded on Sentral and reported to parents twice a year.

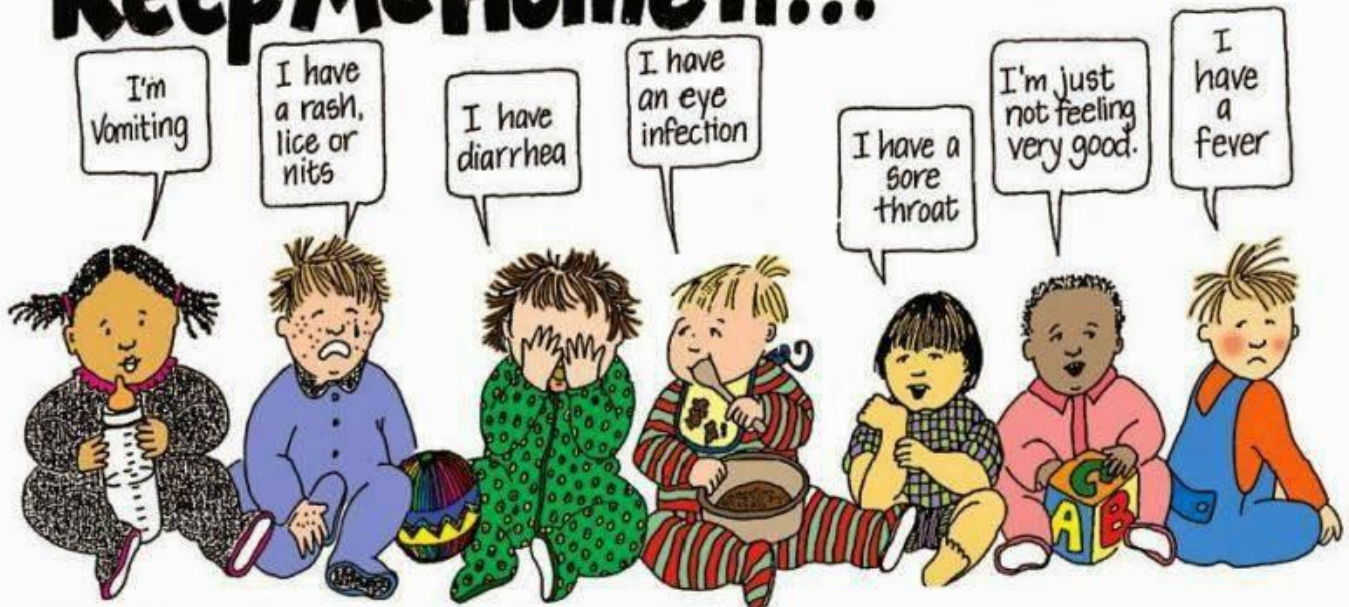
Implementation:

- The parent/carer will make the decision to keep their child at home if he/she is too ill to engage in classroom learning; is ill and sleeping for parts of the day; has high temperatures; has an infection (eg. Chest, throat, production of mucus); is recovering from an infection or hospitalisation; has been vomiting or had diarrhoea.
- **Students need to remain at home for a period of at least 24-48 hours:-**
 - **after the cessation of the last episode of diarrhoea**
 - **if they are not completely well and require ongoing assistance to maintain personal hygiene practices throughout the day (wiping and blowing their own nose)**
- When a staff member becomes aware of a student with a known infectious or contagious illness especially those associated with vomiting or diarrhoea; the school will contact the parent/carer requesting the child be taken home;
- In the event that a parent/carer cannot be contacted the emergency contact person will be requested to take the child home, or where this is not possible; the student will be transferred to the hospital for further medical assessment;
- The parent/carer will co-operate with the school on all student health matters;
- The parent /carer will keep the child at home when there is a significant risk of cross infection to other students or staff to keep the child home until they are completely well;
- The parent/carer will liaise with the child's medical practitioner about the implications of the child's health condition for their schooling;
- Parents/carers will be reminded of this policy if their child presents to school with a contagious illness.

This policy was ratified by the P & C

March 2016

Keep Me Home If...



**Special Needs & Medically Fragile Children
NEED you to KEEP your Sick Child Home**

A Very Special Needs Resource

When Your Child is Sick:

**Do Not Intentionally
Expose Them to Others**