

Earlscliffe (Sussex Summer Schools Ltd)

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES POLICY

Earlscliffe welcomes an international community. It recognises that for a number of reasons there is a worldwide rise in infectious diseases in children and in a close community such as a school the risk can increase.

This policy recognises the responsibilities and actions of parents/guardians and the school in order to reduce the risk of communicable diseases within our community.

Definition

Communicable diseases are infections that can be spread from one person to another. Relatively minor infections include athletes' foot, ringworm, head lice, verrucae and warts and the common cold. However, diseases such as measles, mumps, rubella meningitis, tuberculosis and food poisoning are more serious and are notifiable by the College to the Director of Public Health.

Responsibilities

Parents

It is a parent/guardians responsibility to:

Make informed decisions about their child's immunisation programme to reduce their susceptibility to diseases.

Inform the school of current immunisation status

Seek advice on further immunisation required for world-wide travel.

Inform the school of any recent illness.

Keep a child with a fever, vomiting, diarrhoea or unexplained rash at home until recovery or diagnosis confirmed by a Doctor.

Reduce spread of minor infections by treating appropriately

Teach their children the importance of hygiene. E.g. Hand washing,

The School

The School receives and updates information from the Department of Health regarding immunisation programmes in children and will advise parents accordingly.

The School liaises with public health over issues of communicable disease. They will take advice, advise school management who will inform parents accordingly.

Immunisation programmes can be made available for boarders.

Pupils are taught about health and hygiene within the school curriculum in Science and PSHE. Awareness is also encouraged through assemblies, posters and general behaviour expectations.

The School has a policy for regarding the spillage of body fluids.

Children with minor infections will not be excluded from school. However a child who the school considers unwell may be sent home.

Further information and advice regarding communicable diseases can be obtained from the following websites

www.nhs.direct.nhs.uk

www.phls.co.uk

www.who.int/en/

This list is not an exclusive list of notifiable diseases.

Reviewed and updated November 2019