



# Weekly Newsletter

FRIDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 2023

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# Latest News

Dear Parents and Carers,

As usual, it's hard to believe we've only been back in school for 3 weeks! There's so much going on and it's lovely to see the children enjoying their learning and the variety of activities in school.

## Forest School

Thank you to everyone for sending in appropriate clothing and footwear for your child's fortnightly Forest School session. They have had some very wet and muddy conditions this week—but that's all part of the fun!

## Computing Curriculum

One of the new arrangements this year is that we have brought in experts to teach the Computing curriculum. We're sure that this will benefit the children by providing up-to-date, consistent and specialist teaching of this importance area of the curriculum.

For more information visit [mglworld.com](http://mglworld.com) or @MGLWorldNews on X



## Zero Food Waste

We're delighted to have teamed up with Liverpool Zero Food Waste, whose mission is to “Collect surplus food to save it from landfill and distribute it to our community.” So every Thursday and Friday morning, a small team of us are collecting surplus food from Tescos and Aldi around the city and bringing it back to school to distribute at the beginning and end of the day. Please watch out for texts!

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Another initiative that we're proud to have launched is the 'Making Money Make Sense' free and confidential surgeries with Helen Fisher, a highly experienced adviser.

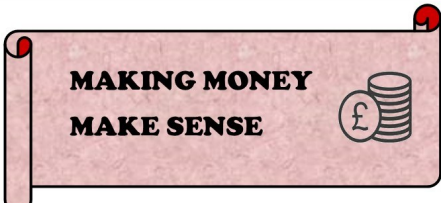
Helen has already helped several families and staff with issues over housing, benefits and money-management. We're now delighted that we're able to work in partnership with her to offer weekly surgeries for anyone who is struggling or who would just like to check their financial health.

Please book via Ruth Carson 2284222 or <https://forms.gle/cbwKstUAtnk15F3M7>

All support is free, confidential and completely non-judgemental—we're all in the same boat!

### Academisation

I hope you've had a chance to read the letter on our website following the link which has been texted. If not, it is on the following pages. There is a Parent consultation/information session on Thursday 28th September in the school hall at 3:30pm.



**MAKING MONEY  
MAKE SENSE**

Do you need help or advice with:

<b>Money management</b>	<b>Maximising income</b>
<b>Budgeting</b>	<b>Welfare benefits</b>
<b>Banks/credit options</b>	<b>Energy efficiency</b>
<b>Housing</b>	



We can offer advice and support that is free, independent and confidential.



#### **Signs of a Rainbow CIC**

will be at Knotty Ash Community Hub  
Tuesday afternoon—1.00 —3.00 pm  
Wednesday morning 9.30—11.30 am

Please contact Ruth Carson on 2284222 to make an appointment

or complete a Googlform <https://forms.gle/cbwKstUAtnk15F3M7>

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## Consultation on Knotty Ash Primary School becoming an academy and joining Lydiate Learning Trust

September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will recall that a letter was sent to you in July, informing you that after careful consideration the Governing Body had decided to apply for Knotty Ash Primary School to convert to an academy and join a multi-academy trust (MAT). Following the initial information sharing stage, we would now like to formally consult with you regarding this.

After careful consideration, the trust that Governors have identified as the right one for our school to join is Lydiate Learning Trust [www.lydiatelearningtrust.co.uk](http://www.lydiatelearningtrust.co.uk). We believe that this MAT best meets our needs, shares our ethos and is the one that will enable us to retain our identity and autonomy. Our Governing Board believes that joining this trust, senior leaders and staff will be empowered to continue to deliver a great education for your child/children, but with less administrative challenges than they currently face. They would be working with like-minded people and schools in our community, that share our commitment to securing the best outcomes for **all** pupils.

### **For your information, these are the key differences that would come with Academy status as part of a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT):**

- The school will cease to be maintained by the Local Authority but will instead be funded and maintained directly by the Department for Education. This will mean that the school will retain a portion of its budget that is currently retained by the Local Authority.
- The Trust will act as a central channel for all funding, with each school within the Trust being funded on the basis of its pupil numbers (similar to the current arrangement for us as a school maintained by the Local Authority). This includes individual schools retaining all their individual funding for Pupil Premium children and pupils with additional needs.
- A proportion of the overall budget, currently utilised to buy services such as payroll and Human Resources from external providers, will be retained centrally by the Trust for these common key and essential services and contracts. The Trust will establish value for money and generate economies of scale.
- The school staff will become employed by the MAT. The employment rights of all members of staff will be protected by the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (TUPE) Regulations 2006. This means that staff will transfer to the MAT under the same terms and conditions of employment. Pension rights and continuity of service record will also be preserved.
- Multi-Academy Trusts must still comply with the admissions, exclusions and SEND laws and relevant codes of practice as we have to now as a maintained school.

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- Academies are permitted certain freedoms, for example, from following the National Curriculum (although we have no plans to deviate from it.) In practice, all schools continue to be overseen by Ofsted and children will continue to be subject to national SATs at the end of Key Stages One and Two.

We are committed to ensuring that in making this change and joining a MAT, the individual ethos and values of Knotty Ash Primary School will be retained. Although we will be part of the Lydiate Learning Trust we will continue to be named Knotty Ash Primary School and our uniform and logos will not change. Our rich and exciting curriculum, extra-curricular programme, school day, pastoral support and guidance and the general day to day organisation of the school will not be affected. The high-quality teaching and the resources currently provided to Knotty Ash Primary School will all continue. The Deaf Resource Base would continue to be an integral and valued part of the school. There would also be no staffing changes as a result of a change to become an Academy.

This letter is part of our consultation process. The consultation period will begin today for a period of two school weeks and will end at 5.00pm Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October.

Our Governing Body would welcome any comments, questions or queries that you have in response to this consultation. These can be made in writing to the Clerk to the Governing Board, Mrs L Ashcroft at the school or via email titled consultation response to [l.ashcroft@knottyashprimary.co.uk](mailto:l.ashcroft@knottyashprimary.co.uk) .

If you would like to hear more about the proposal and ask questions, there will be a meeting for parents/carers on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 3:30pm.

This letter is also published on the school website – [www.knottyashprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.knottyashprimaryschool.co.uk) .

Yours sincerely,

**Mr D Rushworth**

Chair of Governors

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# What have we been learning?

## Nursery



Nursery have had a busy week and have managed to get outside quite a lot despite the inclement weather. On Monday we had our first Forest School of the year and it was very rainy so that meant lots of lovely puddles to jump in! We all had wellies and waterproof suits so we kept nice and dry. We learnt all about the rules of Forest School so we could all have fun safely.

On Tuesday we had PE but sadly it was pouring down again so we went in the hall- but we had a lovely time playing parachute games. We also enjoyed lots of warm up games.

This week in phonics we have been playing lots of listening games and making vocal sounds. Our special sound this week was S we have been looking all round our class for objects beginning with s and at home.

In maths we have been sorting objects that are different colours- we had to help Teddy sort the beanbags when he tipped them all over the floor. We have also been counting to 20 with Coco our clown puppet and playing splat the number from 0-5.

In Literacy we read *Monkey Puzzle* by Julia Donaldson when monkey was looking for his family - we have been talking about the people in our family and collecting photos to make our family trees.

In continuous provision we have been enjoying building obstacle courses outside and building dens. Inside we have enjoyed dressing up, playing in the baby clinic and playing with the dinosaur tuff tray.

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# What have we been learning?

## Reception



Reception have been super learners this week and have started their phonics lessons. We have met our new characters from Floppy Phonics and have been introduced to the sounds 's' and 'a'. The children were brilliant at finding our new sounds in their environment.

In Maths we have been doing lots of singing and counting. We have been practicing our one-to-one correspondence to 3. They have really enjoyed joining in and more so when Miss "gets it wrong".

They enjoyed going out to the MUGA with Mrs Davis for a fun PE session - luckily the rain stayed off! We have also been talking about our families and we read the story Owl Babies, linking to thinking about ourselves as a baby.

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# What have we been learning? Year 1



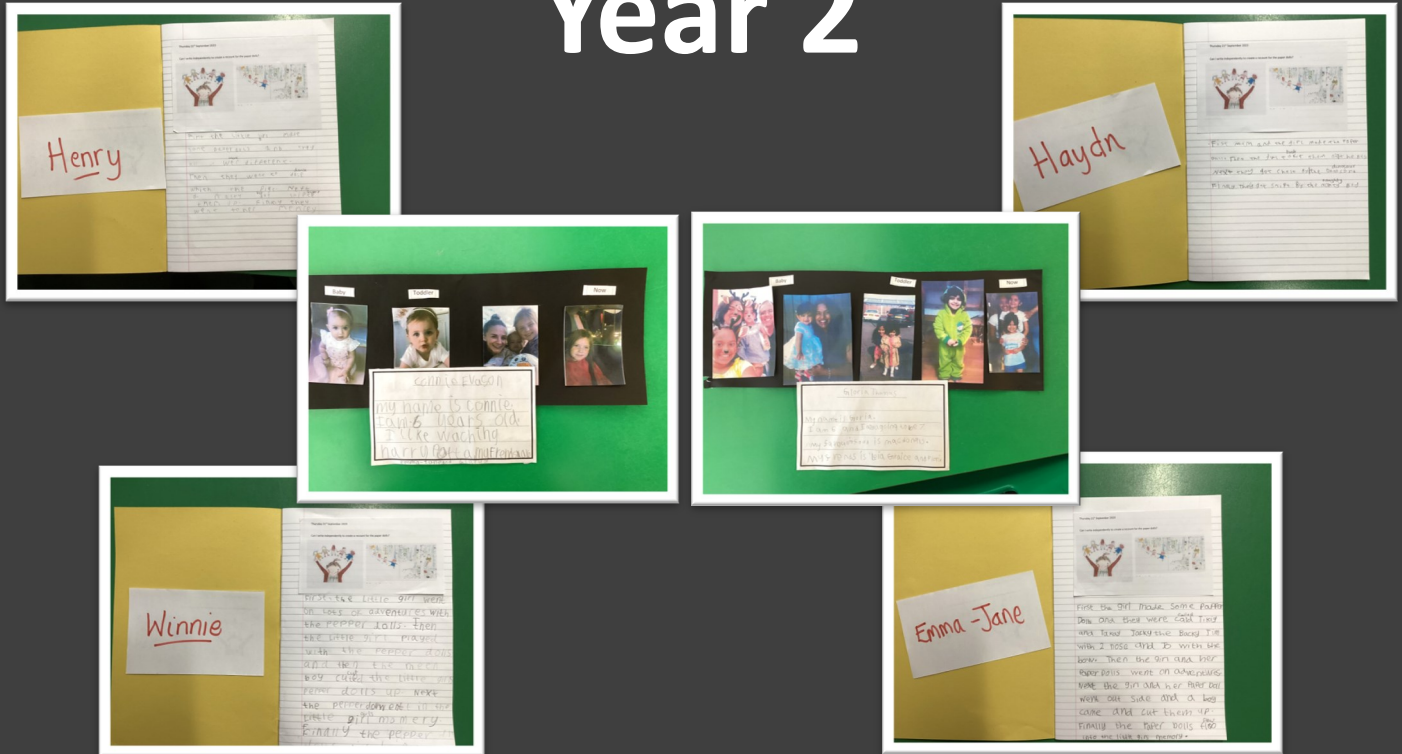
What an amazing week Year 1 have had! We've definitely noticed children settling into their new class and routine this week. In Maths, we've focused on recognising numbers as words, this is a tricky concept but the children have worked so hard and built upon their understanding. In phonics, we're still recapping phase 2 sounds to embed their understanding before moving on. During our afternoon lessons, we've explored a range of different topics. In science, we focused on different parts of the body. We also looked at the human life cycle and how we change over time. During one afternoon, we focused on what it meant to grow old after watching the film up last week which is our stimulus for this term. Year 1 have also explored people in our community who help us and where we might see them. It's been a busy but fun week in Year 1!

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# What have we been learning? Year 2



This week Year 2 have continued their work on the story 'The Paper Dolls'. They have written lots of captions and we have all been so impressed with their writing. The children also completed their first piece of writing in their 'showcase writing book'.

In Maths the children have continued to look at place value and looking more closely at tens and ones and counting in 10s. I have seen some great teamwork in maths this week when completing tasks, which was lovely.

The children enjoyed showing off photos of themselves when they were younger this week. We heard lots of funny stories of what they used to be like when they were babies.

We began work on our local area this week in geography. The children loved exploring Google maps and finding their homes! They also made their own map of how they get to school everyday!!

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 3



Year 3 have had a busy week exploring Charlie and the Chocolate Factory . We have learnt how to identify similes and metaphors and read those we found in our text in English. In Maths, we're still looking at partitioning but we've moved on to hundreds and thousands. In PE we've practiced hop scotching and zigzagging in preparation for games.

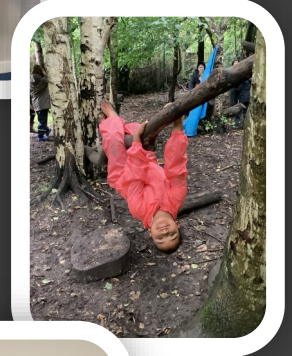
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# What have we been learning?

## Year 4



It has been a super busy week in Year 4, our first full week back since the summer holidays! The week started off with a return to forest school where we focused on the 4 seasons. In PE we did some yoga focusing on our balance and agility. We also looked at moving our bodies in different ways around an obstacle course. We made fact files on an illustrator called Quentin Blake who drew the pictures for a lot of the Roald Dahl books. In English we continued to look at superlatives and alliteration. We then used these to make a billboard poster advertising our very own chocolate bars. In Maths we have continued looking at partitioning and place value for numbers up to 10,000. Finally, in Science we learnt the different types of teeth that we have and their functions.

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 5



Year 5 have managed to cram in loads of learning this week. In maths, we have continued to explore and work with the different values within numbers up to one million! We have played games where we have tried to make the largest numbers possible with a group of digits and also the smallest numbers. We have been partitioning numbers too and adding ones, tens, hundreds and thousands to numbers. In English, we have recapped on our understanding of word classes like nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, similes and prepositions. We then finished the week off by writing a story based on the music video to Titanium by David Guetta and Sia! We began looking at our topic of Equality this week and explored the continents and Oceans of our planet! We learned lots of facts and even had an epic quiz hosted by Mr England and Mrs Rees! We finished the week off with a visit from Mr Steele and began learning about chess again! It was brilliant!

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 6

Year 6 have really knuckled down this week and worked hard. They've proved that they've got a good grasp of place value, comparing numbers up to one million, multiplying and dividing decimal numbers by ten and even making jam sandwiches to see the relationship between dividing by five, ten and twenty!

We also were lucky enough to get a visit from Mr Houghton's Mum and her husband Mr Isiaku Bala. They shared stories about Nigeria, including the complicated way of greeting people, power cuts and tribal tattoos. It was a great experience. In English, we've been honing our persuasive techniques.

One more thing, our Yr 5/6 football team played their first matches today and played brilliantly! It certainly bodes well for our season.

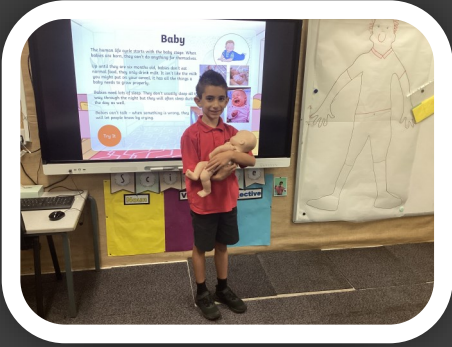
We're all excited about the beginning of Autumn and all the delights that that season brings. Have a lovely weekend everyone!

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# What have we been learning?

## DRB 1



This term, we are learning about the human growth and the stages of the human life cycle. Over the past week we have been sequencing the human life cycle in order and learnt the signs for baby, child, teenager, adult and elderly.

We have had lots of fun looking at Digi maps to identify the changes in the local area using aerial photographs from now and back in 1890s. We also took a tour around the school to try and locate the buildings, roads and field on the map.

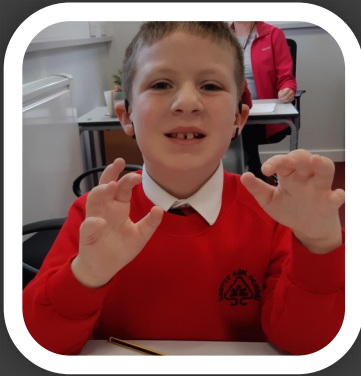
Finally, we have been looking at Lucy Casson 'bird' artwork and instantly recognised that her fabulous work is inside Alder Hey hospital!

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# What have we been learning?

## DRB 2



We have had such a busy time this week. We have been learning about common nouns and proper nouns and when we use capital letters. In Maths we have been checking up on our addition and subtraction skills. As part of the Inclusive Curriculum, some of us have been learning all about Rosa Parks who is known as 'The Mother of Modern Day Civil Rights Movement'. We have started to research the life of Martin Luther King, so will have lots to report on next week! This has involved us learning lots of new, and quite tricky, vocabulary. Miss Gloria told us all about her favourite African foods and later in the term, we will be trying some of her recipes! Other children in KS2 DRB have been learning about the local area and understanding what we mean by the term 'community'. We are planning to get out and about, using maps to help us discover all about the environment around us, so watch this space!

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# Attendance



Class	Attendance
Reception	97.2%
Year 1	93.1%
Year 2	95.7%
Year 3	98.7%
Year 4	98.0%
Year 5	90.3%
Year 6	96.9%

**Whole school attendance this week 95.7%**

**Class attendance winners Year 3 98.7%**

Well done to all the children who were in school every day.  
Especially big well done to Reception, Year 3 and Year 4  
whose overall attendance was over 97%!

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# Term Dates and Events

Wednesday 27th Sept	5pm Tour of school for parents applying for Reception place Sept 2024
Thursday 28th Sept	3:30pm Parents' Information meeting about Knotty Ash joining the Lydiate Learning Trust
Friday 27th October	School finishes at 3:20pm for half-term (after-school care still available)
30th Oct—3rd Nov	HALF TERM WEEK
Monday 6th Nov	School reopens at 8:50am (breakfast club still available)
Tuesday 7th Nov	Knotty Ash fireworks at Bright Park

Term dates for this year and next year are available on the school website:

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# Who's Who?

## Leadership Team

<b>Miss Clements-Bedson</b>	<b>Headteacher</b>
<b>Mr England</b>	<b>Deputy Headteacher &amp; SENDCo</b>
<b>Ms Sweeney</b>	<b>Head of Deaf Resource Base</b>
<b>Ms Bridson</b>	<b>Head of Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)</b>
<b>Mrs O'Hanlon</b>	<b>Forest School and Mental Health Lead</b>
<b>Mrs Carson</b>	<b>School Business Manager</b>

## Teachers

<b>Mrs Davies</b>	<b>Nursery</b>
<b>Ms Bridson</b>	<b>Reception</b>
<b>Mrs Nugent</b>	<b>Year 1</b>
<b>Mrs England</b>	<b>Year 2</b>
<b>Mrs O'Hanlon/Mrs Cartwright</b>	<b>Year 3</b>
<b>Mrs Murphy</b>	<b>Year 4</b>
<b>Mr Hall</b>	<b>Year 5</b>
<b>Mr Houghton</b>	<b>Year 6</b>
<b>Mrs Woods</b>	<b>DRB 1</b>
<b>Mrs Rigg</b>	<b>DRB 2</b>

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# Family Activities & Support

The latest edition of the Liverpool Parenting Newsletter is here.

[www.allabout-family.co.uk/liverpool](http://www.allabout-family.co.uk/liverpool)

You will find new information about local support available for families and children in Liverpool, along with information regarding events and activities on offer running from March to May 2023.

We have also been sent information about Family Learning and Engagement Courses run by LCC Adult Learning Service. This can be found on our school website, link here:

<https://knotty-ash-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/family-information-and-support/>

For families in receipt of benefits related free school meals, there are a variety of activities over the Summer break, all of which are free and include a meal:

<https://merseyplay.com/summer-haf-holiday-activities-food-2023/>

Locally, St John's Church offer a range of community groups and activities for families:

<https://www.stjohnsknottyash.org/our-community>

There's also a range of groups and activities available at Yew Tree Children's Centre for parents whose children are 0-5 years.

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-years-and-childcare/childrens-centres/yew-tree-childrens-centre/>

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It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](#). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

**Other illnesses** Follow this advice for other illnesses:

### **Coughs and colds**

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor [cough](#) or [common cold](#). But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

### **High temperature**

If your child has a [high temperature](#), keep them off school until it goes away.

### **Chickenpox**

If your child has [chickenpox](#), keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over.

This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

### **Cold sores**

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a [cold sore](#).

Encourage them not to touch the blister or to share things like cups and towels.

### **Conjunctivitis**

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have [conjunctivitis](#).

Get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

### **COVID-19**

If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, and feels well enough, they can go to school. Your child should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have [symptoms of COVID-19](#) and they either:

- have a high temperature
- do not feel well enough to go to school or do their normal activities

### **Ear infection**

If your child has an [ear infection](#) and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

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## Hand, foot and mouth disease

If your child has hand, foot and mouth disease but seems well enough, there's no need to keep them off school. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.

## Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice but tie hair back. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.

## Impetigo

If your child has impetigo, they'll need treatment from a GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups .

## Ringworm

If your child has ringworm, see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

## Scarlet fever

If your child has scarlet fever, they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

## Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. But let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.

## Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away. A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis.

## Threadworms

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have threadworms. Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

## Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).



<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

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