



Mowbray Primary School
Stakeford Lane
Guide Post
Choppington
Northumberland
NE62 5HQ

Headteacher: Mr Andrew Miller

AM/LH

22 November 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Illness at School

As you will be aware from the press over the past week, many schools across the country have been affected by the Winter Vomiting Bug and Flu. This is common at this time of year and is widespread across communities so will naturally find its way into schools.

Today has seen a sharp rise in the number of children and staff absent from school with these symptoms and I have taken advice from Public Health England in order to help stop the spread of these infections further. I have attached a useful information letter from Public Health England for you.

In school, we have been teaching the children the importance of handwashing before eating and after going to the toilet and of good hygiene techniques when coughing, sneezing and blowing noses. I have also amended our cleaning schedules with our caretaker to ensure widespread deeper cleans are undertaken until further notice.

Can I draw everyone's attention to the guidance received this morning that children with Winter Vomiting Bug symptoms and stomach upsets are not sent back into school for 48 hours after the last episode of sickness and that children with flu symptoms do not attend until symptoms are clear.

Public Health did not give any advice that school needs to close and through our discussions with them we are confident that if their advice is followed the levels of illness will reduce quite quickly.

Thank you for your co-operation and I hope if either you or your children are unwell that you are feeling better soon as both of these bugs are particularly unpleasant.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Miller
Headteacher

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