

BSS Plovdiv illness policy

Policy Statement:

The British School of Sofia – campus Plovdiv is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults at all times and expects everybody working within this setting to share this commitment.

We aim to:

- Ensure sick children are identified.
- Ensure sick children are cared for appropriately.
- Protect children and adults from preventable infection.
- Enable our staff and parents to be clear about the requirements and procedures when a child is unwell.
- Provide a safe, secure and hygienic environment, following stringent planned cleaning procedures and policies, including ongoing daily cleaning routines throughout the working day. Deep and thorough cleaning practice following infectious outbreaks.

Procedure:

- A medical filter is performed every morning upon arrival of the students and staff by the school medic. The filter consists of measuring the temperature of the arriving students and staff and a general examination of their physical condition.
- If any child is thought to be unwell, we will assess the symptoms of the child and deal with them in the appropriate way which is dependent on the symptoms.
- Any child with an infectious or contagious disease should stay home for a period of time, the length of which may depend on the illness. If staff suspect that a child has an infectious or contagious disease, they will advise parents to consult a Doctor/Pharmacist before returning to school.
- Should a child become ill while at school the school nurse will contact the parent or emergency contacts and the child should be collected as soon as possible. The child

will be comforted by the nurse who will take appropriate action which will include medical advice where necessary, while awaiting the arrival of the parent.

- Our staff will report any worries about a child's health or well-being to the parent immediately. Parents are responsible for keeping the school informed about their child's health.
- We can only administer medicine that has either been prescribed or advised from a doctor.
- We are unable to administer any medicine which has been decanted into another container.
- Any medicine brought in needs to be in the original box with leaflet enclosed, with the child's name on a label where appropriate and to be handed personally to the school nurse.
- Coughs and colds are assessed by the school nurse and every case is considered individually.
- If a child has ongoing discharge from their ears, nose or eyes the parents should seek medical advice before their child can return to the school and a doctor's note will be required before returning to ensure the child's well-being is met.
- If a child has sickness or diarrhoea whilst at school, we will request that they are collected as soon as possible, preferably within the hour. They will then not be able to return to school until they feel well again. The students using the school transportation service will be driven home.
- Should the school nurse consider the illness or situation needs immediate medical attention, the emergency services will be contacted to take the child directly to hospital and the parent will be contacted accordingly. (Consent for this should have been given in the child's enrolment form)
- In the unlikely event of the parent not being available the school nurse will assume charge and, if necessary, escort the child to hospital along with the relevant details.

Mandatory health protocols for conduct in case of suspicion:

If three main symptoms of illness are present at the same time or a combination of symptoms characteristic of a given infection in a student (MAIN SYMPTOMS: high temperature (above 37.5°C); new and continuous cough – coughing for prolonged periods for more than an hour, or 3 or more episodes of coughing in 24 hours; new loss or change in the sense of smell or taste; +/- ACCOMPANYING SYMPTOMS: sneezing, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat, fatigue, gastrointestinal complaints, etc.)

Initial behaviour:

- The student is immediately isolated in a room provided for such instances, until he is reviewed by a medical officer.
- The student is instructed to put on correctly a protective face mask.
- Firstly the student is reviewed and consulted by the school medical officer, then the student's GP is informed and consulted (or in a licensed health center) or if necessary and indicated an ambulance is called on 112 to assess his/her condition and for further medical management.
- The student's parent(s) / guardian(s) is/are contacted immediately and is/are required to pick up the student from school as soon as possible, by taking into account the necessary preventive health measures.
- Parent(s) / guardian(s) are reminded of the procedures to follow - to avoid unprotected contact and to consult with the student's family doctor (or in a licensed health center) to decide on the necessary further measures, including whether it is necessary to have a PCR test for COVID-19.
- After the student has left the room a thorough disinfection is performed.
- The student is allowed back in school only if he/she is clinically healthy (to be asymptomatic if he/she was unwell and ill)