



Gosford Hill School

Tel: 01865 374971

www.gosfordhillschool.org

office@gosfordhillschool.org

Headteacher: Nigel Sellars BMus Hons, LGSM

Oxford Road, Kidlington, Oxfordshire, OX5 2NT



Wednesday 15th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Minor Ailments and Illness

There is a significant push across the education sector to improve school attendance nationally. We know that there is a direct correlation between educational outcomes and attendance to school. This is both academic outcomes and the important experiences and opportunities available to help our students become well rounded young adults.

We are writing to you to provide further guidance on our school's expectations of when a child should be off school for minor illnesses and ailments.

We will no longer be authorising absences for minor illness and ailments when we believe a child should be able to attend school. A full guidance document has been attached which will provide you the full details about what we will and won't authorise. This is based on the latest NHS advice. Absences for these reasons are likely to be recorded as unauthorised absences.

In addition, please remember that as far as reasonably possible, medical appointments should be booked outside the school day.

As a school, we have a duty of care to promote and enforce high standards of attendance for every child, as school attendance is the single biggest predictor of future success for children, both in terms of their academic outcomes and future life/career earnings. We want your child to flourish, and value your support in ensuring your child attends school regularly, and on time.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact with our Attendance Team or your child's Head of Year if you would like to discuss your child's attendance with us.

Yours sincerely,

N. J. Sellars

Nigel J. Sellars
Headteacher

Mr C Bateman
Deputy Headteacher

