

Forres Sandle Manor (Non-Academic) Policy

Policy Title	Epidemics, Pandemics and Norovirus
Policy Lead (Appointment (& Initials))	Head Matron (NB)
Date of Last Review	February 2020
Date of Next Review	February 2022

EPIDEMICS, PANDEMICS AND NOROVIRUS

Where there is an identified risk of significant infection to staff or pupils the FSM senior leadership team will meet with the following objectives:

- Safeguarding pupil health and welfare.
- Reducing the spread of infection.
- Minimising disruption.

The SLT will act to:

- Identify signs and symptoms.
- Plan for likely scenarios.
- Communicate effectively with pupils, staff and parents to inform and advise.
- Manage medical intervention (pupil care, increased health education, medication).
- Arrange effective cleaning and hygiene measures.
- Manage staff and pupil absence and curriculum continuation.
- Monitor the national and local situation and respond to government guidance.

SWINE FLU PANDEMIC

SYMPTOMS

- Typically a fever and cough associated with the sudden onset of symptoms.
- Additionally may include headache, aches & pains, cold symptoms, diarrhoea
- Incubation is 1-4 days (but typically 2-3 days) and a person is infectious from the onset of symptoms up to 7 days (but typically 4-5 days).
- The spread may be rapid (a matter of weeks) and may affect many (up to 25%). A second wave of infection may be expected.

ADVICE

Any pupil, parent or member of staff with these symptoms, or who has been in contact with someone who has diagnosed swine flu, should speak (by phone) with their GP or swine flu helpline. They should not return to school until clear to do so (7 days from the onset of symptoms) and should keep the school informed of any diagnosis.

HYGIENE

Good hygiene is essential to limit transmission of the virus and all pupils are regularly reminded about the use of tissues, their disposal and hand washing. Sanitising gels are situated around the school site and children are encouraged to use these regularly.

CLOSURE

FSM will remain open with normal school where possible unless we are required to close. If closure is unavoidable parents will be informed via the website and telephone and asked to collect children. Those children who are unable to travel through illness will be cared for at school until well enough to travel. Those children who are unable to fly home should be collected by a UK guardian.

CURRICULUM

If required to close FSM hopes to provide a continuation of curriculum on the website however this event constitutes a 'force majeure' and any interruption of business will not constitute a breach of contract.

INFORMATION

Advice, information and updates will be available on the FSM website.