**Procedures for Dealing with Sick Children**

**Scoil Cholmcille Junior,**

**Ballybrack**

**Roll No: 19641T**

In Scoil Cholmcille Junior we encourage children to attend school as often as possible in order that they can make the best possible progress. However, the health and well-being of children and staff is also of paramount importance.

The procedures we have in place for dealing with sick children enable staff and parents to be clear about the requirements and procedures when children are unwell. These procedures aim to ensure sick children are identified and cared for appropriately. They also strive to protect children and adults from preventable infection.

In order to maintain a clean and healthy environment for all, we ask that parents refrain from bringing children to school if they are displaying signs of illness. However, it can happen that a child shows signs of illness during the school day. If a child complains about not feeling well in school, the class teacher will ask relevant questions to assess the situation. The class teacher will monitor the child, allowing him/her to have a drink of water etc. If the child continues to complain about feeling sick, the teacher will decide whether the child is well enough to participate in school. If it is close to the end of the school day, the class teacher may wait until the parent arrives to discuss the situation. However, if the child appears to be getting upset, the teacher may call the parents to take the child home.

The following is a guideline for teachers and parents:

* A child who becomes sick and vomits or has diarrhoea during the day will be sent home.
* If a child develops a fever of 100 degrees or above during the day, she or he will be sent home. Coughs and colds do not normally require the child to be sent home but this depends on the severity and how the child is able to cope with the school routine.
* If a child appears too ill to participate in regular activities the class teacher may call the parents to take the child home.

Children can attend school while on antibiotics. However, staff cannot supervise children inside the school during yard time. If a child is too sick to go out to the yard during break and lunch, the child should remain at home.

We encourage parents to inform the school if their child has been diagnosed with any contagious infections. In the case of Chicken pox, a child should stay at home until all sores have crusted over. If a member of staff suspects that a child has an infectious or contagious disease, they will request that parents consult a doctor before returning the child to school

Staff will consult *Infections in School,* A Manual For School Personnel for advice on any contagious infections or illnesses, as to whether a child should be asked to stay at home and whether the school should inform all parents about an outbreaks of any contagious infections or illnesses.