



Public Health
England

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Dear Parent / Carer

There has been an unexpected increase in children affected by vomiting in the school. This is usually caused by a virus which is spread by unwashed hands or sometimes eating food that has been contaminated by a person who has symptoms.

A child who has symptoms should be off school until they feel better with normal stools and at least 48 hours after symptoms have settled. Parents are advised to see the GP if the child is unwell, as treatment may be needed to replace fluids. It is recommended that a stool specimen is submitted via the GP or other health professional.

Please take this letter with you to your GP if your child/children have symptoms.

To prevent spread of infection, it is recommended that all the family regularly wash their hands, especially after going to the toilet and before handling food, and keep surfaces clean in the kitchen and toilet areas to reduce possible contamination.

We may ask a local environmental health officer to visit the home or school and request stool samples from symptomatic children to find the cause.

Yours sincerely,

North East North Central Health Protection Team

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