



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

RE: Gastro-intestinal Illness at – YGG CWMNEDD.

I am writing to inform you that there is an increase in the number of pupils at YGG Cwmnedd with diarrhoea and vomiting symptoms consistent with Norovirus/viral gastroenteritis.

Neath Port Talbot Health Protection Team are advising that symptoms of Norovirus include vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal cramps, headache and fever. The condition usually resolves within 24 to 48 hours, but that it is very infectious. The incubation period (time it takes for the illness to develop) is between 24 and 48 hours before the symptoms present.

If your child develops these symptoms, and to prevent further cases in the school, please keep your child at home for at least 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea, vomiting or fever.

There is no specific treatment for Norovirus, however it is important to encourage your child to drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration.

The virus is easily spread from person to person. Good hygiene by everyone in the family reduces the risk of transmission. This means washing your hands with soap (preferably liquid soap) and water after going to the toilet and before preparing or eating food.

It is important to clear up spills of vomit or faeces immediately as it is very infectious, by thorough washing of the contaminated environment with soap and hot water and then disinfecting with a bleach based / antiviral solution when the vomit/ diarrhoea has been removed.
(In accordance with manufacture instructions.)

Ensure that each family member uses separate towels and flannels where possible, which are changed and washed frequently at a high temperature.

Hand washing, appropriate cleaning and disinfection and the **48hr exclusion period** are the most effective control measures of reducing transmission at the school premises.

The school is working closely with Neath Port Talbot Health Protection Team and the Local Authority Cleaning Services to ensure appropriate control measures are implemented and that the school is thoroughly cleaned.

If you are concerned about your child and symptoms do not seem to be settling, please telephone your GP or NHS Direct on 111.

Kind Regards,

R Jones

**Health Protection Officer/ Swyddog Diogelu Iechyd
Health Protection Team / Tîm Diogelu Iechyd
Environmental Health / Iechyd Yr Amgylchedd**

Amgylchedd ac Adfywio

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