Haydon Abbey School and Pre-School
Weedon Road, Aylesbury, HP19 9NS
Telephone: 01296 482 278
Email: office@haydonabbey.bucks.sch.uk
Website: www.haydonabbeyschoolandpreschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Miss Ashleigh Ferdinand

16th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Important Health Update: Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) & Illness in School

We are writing to inform you that we have noticed a recent increase in illness across the school, particularly cases of **Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)**, a common respiratory infection that causes coughs, colds, and fever.

We are taking active steps in school to reduce transmission and keep all our children healthy, as well as to protect vulnerable family members at home—such as baby siblings, grandparents, or relatives with underlying health conditions.

We kindly ask for your support at home with the following measures:

1. When to Keep Your Child at Home

To protect classmates, staff, and vulnerable family members, please adhere to the following guidance:

- **Fever & High Temperature:** If your child has a high temperature (38 degrees celsius or above), they must stay at home. They can return to school only after they have been **fever-free for at least 24 hours without using temperature-reducing medication** (such as Calpol, paracetamol, or ibuprofen).
- **Morning Medication:** If your child requires medication to manage symptoms before coming to school, they are not well enough to attend and must remain at home to rest.
- **Sickness or Diarrhoea:** As a temporary measure, in line with NHS standards, children must remain at home for **48 hours** after their last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea. Our usual policy is 24 hours.

If you are unsure whether your child is well enough to attend, please click on the following link to access the NHS guidance https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/ or contact the school office.

2. Hand Hygiene & Prevention

In school, staff across all year groups—from Nursery through to Year 6—are ensuring children wash their hands regularly throughout the day. Please reinforce this at home:

- **Nursery, Early Years & Key Stage 1:** Please supervise your child when washing their hands at home using soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- **Key Stage 2:** Please remind older children to wash their hands thoroughly—particularly as soon as they arrive home, before eating, and after using the toilet.

3. Reporting Absences

If your child is absent due to illness, please inform the school office promptly by:

- **Email:** pupilabsence@haydonabbey.bucks.sch.uk
- **Phone:** 01296 482 278 (Option 1 to leave a message on the answerphone)

When reporting an absence, please state your child's name, class, and **specific symptoms**.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping our whole school family safe and well.

Yours faithfully

Miss Ferdinand
Headteacher