

# IBSTOCK PLACE SCHOOL

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## RULES FOR QUARANTINE

*(Please keep this for reference)*

Rules for quarantines have been much under discussion by the medical and teaching professions lately. Here we are giving you a general outline of our revised rules for quarantines.

1. Any child with a **temperature** must stay at home (or if a boarder be in isolation) until the temperature has been normal for 24 hours.

2. The worst time for the spread of the **Common Cold** is usually before anyone is aware that the child has a cold, and during the first three days of catarrh. In his own interest a child is better kept at home for the first three days of a cold, though in the case of older children parents must use their own judgment in the matter.

3. Probably the least inconvenient time to have the **ordinary infectious diseases** is between the ages of five and fifteen years. The feeling of schools and their Medical Officers is now growing that an immense amount of time is wasted, when contacts with a disease are isolated and do not themselves develop the disease. We therefore propose to adopt the practice of surveillance, rather than quarantine, for children who have been exposed to infection; and whether the experiment succeeds depends upon how careful that surveillance is.

During possible incubation periods children's temperatures should be taken night and morning and at any rise in temperature, or sign of cold or headache a child should be kept at home at least until the cause is known and the symptom cleared. So that school and parents may share in this care we shall continue to let you know of any cases of infectious disease which occur amongst the pupils (except for colds, influenza and sporadic cases of german measles) and we ask you to be prompt in notifying the school if your child is ill. If one member of a family has an infectious illness and can be completely isolated from the other children, whether these other children may attend school is a matter to be decided between the parents, the school medical officer, and the head mistress.

P.T.O.

The following table may be useful:—

Disease	Quarantine in days	Safe period, between contact and possible development of disease	Time of isolation of patient
*Chicken pox	21	12 days	Until scabs have disappeared and healed.
Common cold	3	none	Variable—infection is at its height during the early stages of catarrh.
Dysentery	7	none	Usually a few days—until symptoms vanish.
*Impetigo	3	none	Until lesions are healed or can be completely covered.
Influenza	3	none	Until the end of clinical symptoms.
German Measles (rubella)	21	14 days	Seven days from onset of disease, at the most.
*Measles	21	7 days	Until 4 or 5 days after the temperature is normal, (though a child is not necessarily well enough to come back to school then).
*Mumps	28	14 days	Fourteen days from the time of swelling.
*Scarlet Fever	7	none	Until infection has gone from the throat.
*Whooping Cough	14	none	21 days or until catarrh has disappeared (whichever is the longer). The cough continues after the infection is over.

*Quarantines for more serious illnesses must be dealt with as they arise*

\* A child who has had any of these diseases must not return to school without a certificate of clearance signed by a medical practitioner.

Signed IAN FERGUSSON, M.D., M.R.C.P.  
(School Medical Officer)

O. BARBARA PRIESTMAN  
(Head Mistress)