

# High View Primary School

## *Opportunities to Thrive*



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12<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to let you know that we have recently seen a higher number of children in Years 5 and 6 absent from school due to tummy illnesses, in some cases including vomiting. As a result, we have liaised with the UK Health Security Agency's Health Protection Team (UKHSA HPT).

We have informed the UKHSA HPT of the cases and have received advice, which we are following. This guidance highlights the importance of good hygiene, including:

- Thorough handwashing with soap and water.
- Hygienic use of toilets.
- Safe practices around eating and food hygiene.

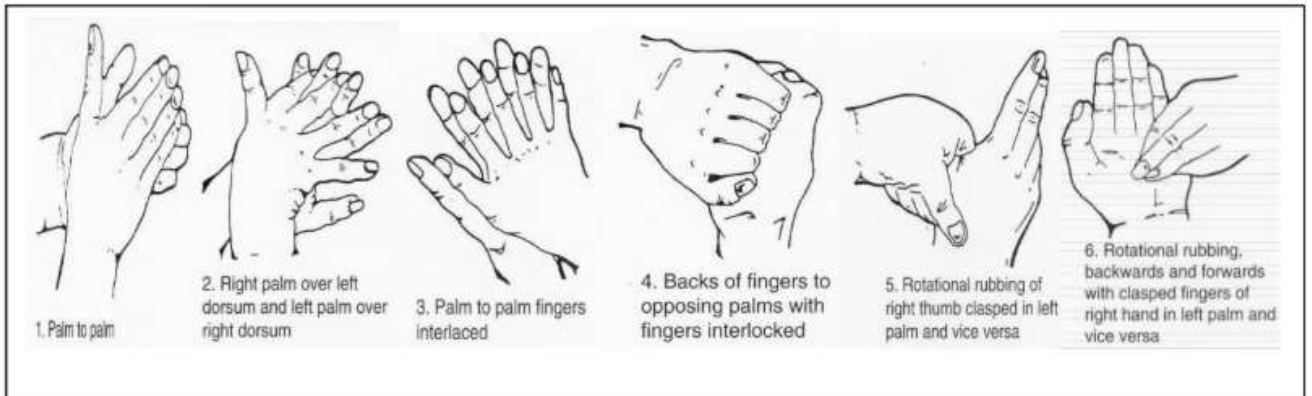
We are unlikely to find out the exact cause of the tummy bug and would kindly ask families not to speculate, as this can sometimes cause unnecessary worry. What we can say is that both children who eat school dinners and those who bring packed lunches have been affected, which suggests the cause is unlikely to be food-related. Nevertheless, we have made our catering company aware of the absences and they continue to operate to the highest hygiene standards.

As a school, we already take daily steps to support children in maintaining healthy and hygienic habits. These include:

- A mid-day clean of key areas, in addition to our thorough after-school cleaning routines.
- Ensuring all toilets are fully stocked with hand wash throughout the day.
- Reminding and expecting children to wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet.

The UKHSA HPT also stresses the importance of the following key hygiene measures at home and in school:

- Good hand washing procedures are essential (illustrated in the picture below).
- Thorough and frequent disinfection of surfaces, such as kitchen worktops, toilet seats, toys, and door handles.
- Good personal hygiene.
- Avoiding eating any raw or unwashed foodstuffs.



We also want to remind parents and carers of the advice regarding diarrhoea and vomiting. If your child experiences either of these symptoms, they must stay away from school until **48 hours after their last episode**. This is very important in preventing the spread of infection to others.

We truly appreciate your continued support in helping us maintain a healthy school environment. By working together, we can help minimise disruption to learning while keeping our children safe and well.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Many thanks,

Mr Claxton

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Mr Claxton".

Head Teacher