



Squirrel Hayes First School
 Springfield Road
 Biddulph
 Stoke on Trent
 ST8 7DF
 Headteacher: Mrs. E. J. Pickford
 Telephone: 01782 973820
 Twitter: @squirrelhayes
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Tuesday 18th November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been informed of cases of **threadworms (commonly called worms)** in a child attending our school. Threadworms are a common childhood infection and are easily spread, so we want to make you aware and provide guidance on what to do.

Threadworms

Threadworms (pinworms) are tiny worms in your poo. They're common in children and spread easily. You can treat them without seeing a GP.

Signs of threadworms

You can spot threadworms in your poo. They look like pieces of white thread.

You might also see them around your child's bottom (anus). The worms usually come out at night while your child is sleeping.

▶ [See what threadworms look like in poo](#)

Other symptoms can include:

- extreme itching around the anus or vagina, particularly at night
- irritability and waking up during the night

Less common signs of worms include:

- weight loss
- wetting the bed
- irritated skin around the anus

See a pharmacist if:

- you think you or your child have threadworms

➔ [Find a pharmacy](#)



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Treatment for threadworms from a pharmacy

You can buy a medicine called [mebendazole](#) for threadworms from pharmacies. This is usually a chewable tablet or liquid you swallow.

Treat everyone over 2 years old in your household, even if they do not have symptoms.

Tell the pharmacist if you need to treat a child under 2 years old, or if you're pregnant or breastfeeding. Treatment might not be suitable and you may need to speak to a GP.

If you cannot take medicine you can treat threadworms by using hygiene methods for 6 weeks.

Things you should do at home for threadworms

Medicine kills the threadworms, but it does not kill the eggs. Eggs can live for up to 2 weeks outside the body.

There are things you can do to stop becoming infected again. Do these for 2 weeks if you're taking medicine, or for 6 weeks if you're not taking medicine.

Please be assured that in school we will continue to promote good hand hygiene and will be following all the infection control guidance.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



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Do

- ✓ wash hands and scrub under fingernails – particularly before eating, after using the toilet or changing nappies
- ✓ encourage children to wash hands regularly
- ✓ shower every morning
- ✓ rinse toothbrushes before using them
- ✓ keep fingernails short
- ✓ wash sleepwear, sheets, towels and soft toys (at a hot temperature) every day for several days after treatment
- ✓ disinfect kitchen and bathroom surfaces, using hot water
- ✓ vacuum and dust with a damp cloth
- ✓ make sure everyone in the household wears underwear at night and changes it in the morning

Don't

- ✗ do not shake clothing or bedding, to prevent eggs landing on other surfaces
- ✗ do not share towels or flannels
- ✗ do not bite nails or suck thumbs and fingers

Nursery, school and work

If you or your child has threadworms there's no need to stay off nursery, school or work.

Yours sincerely, Mrs E. J. Pickford (Headteacher) & Team