

Mumps

Symptoms appear 14 to 25 days after being infected.

Infectious period: From about 6 days before swelling in the face until about 5 days after.



Symptoms

- A general feeling of being unwell.
- A high temperature.
- Pain and swelling on the side of the face (in front of the ear) and under the chin. Swelling usually begins on 1 side followed by the other side, though not always.
- Discomfort when chewing.

Your child's face will be back to normal size in about a week.

It's rare for mumps to affect boys' balls (testes). This happens more often in adult men with mumps.

If you think your child's testes are swollen or painful, see your GP.

Your child can return to school/nursery, 5 days after the onset of swelling and your child is fit and well and showing no other symptoms.

What to do

- Give your child paracetamol or ibuprofen to ease pain in the swollen glands. Check the pack for the correct dosage.
- Give your child plenty to drink, but not fruit juices, as they make the saliva flow, which can worsen your child's pain.
- There's no need to see your GP, unless your child has other symptoms, such as a severe headache, vomiting, a rash, or swollen testes in boys.
- Mumps can be prevented by the MMR vaccine.