



When Should I Keep My Child Home Due to Illness?

Please help us control the spread of illness by keeping students home if they are experiencing any of the following:

- Fever (100.4°F or higher). Must remain home until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications like acetaminophen and ibuprofen.
- Vomiting or diarrhea. Must remain home until free of these symptoms for 24 hours.
- Persistent cough or cold symptoms that are not well contained (covering cough, blowing nose in tissue, proper hand hygiene)
- Symptoms of possible untreated communicable illness (ex. COVID-19, influenza, RSV, strep throat, pink eye, scabies, impetigo, ringworm, hand/foot/mouth disease, etc)
- Other general illness symptoms that prevent your child from participating in routine classroom activities (ex. body aches, headache, fatigue, pain)

General illness guidelines should always be followed. If your child is sent home from school with a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea and they return to school prior to the 24-hour time exclusion period, expect that we will call you to send your child home.

Students that have been exposed to someone that is ill are not required to quarantine for any amount of time. Absences from school may not be excused due to observation/quarantine time after an exposure to illness unless directed to do so by a practitioner (a letter to the school is required). If you prefer to keep your student home for an observation/quarantine time, you may do so by using a personal day for your student.

Please see the information below regarding return to school criteria for some commonly diagnosed communicable illnesses.

Return to School Criteria:

General Illness Symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications ● Vomiting and/or diarrhea free for 24 hours ● All other symptoms are improving and student feels well enough to participate in normal classroom activities
COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same criteria as general illness symptoms listed above
Influenza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same criteria as general illness symptoms listed above
Strep Throat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12-24 hours have passed since starting appropriate antibiotic treatment, follow prescribing practitioner's instructions ● Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication and all other symptoms are improving
RSV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same criteria as general illness symptoms listed above
Pink Eye	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications ● Student does not touch or rub their eye(s) and symptoms do not prevent them from participating in routine classroom activities ● Antibiotic treatment is not required for students to return, but should started as ordered by the practitioner
Impetigo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment or all crusting lesions have resolved
Ringworm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All lesions have resolved or can be completely covered, or until antifungal treatment has been started
Hand, Foot, & Mouth Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fever free for 24 hours, student can maintain proper hand hygiene, and can avoid contact with others while lesions are present ● Younger students may be asked to stay home while they have lesions in their mouth and/or draining lesions on their hands, feet, or other part of their body

Follow your healthcare provider's instructions for return to school criteria dates if different than above

We appreciate your help keeping your students and staff safe and healthy! Please contact the school nurse if you have any questions or concerns.