

# ILLNESS AND SCHOOL POLICY

## MAINTAINING A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>When Should a Child Stay Home from School</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(Students are also sent home if any of the symptoms below are evident during school hours)</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>When Can a Child Return to School</b></p>
<p><u>Common Cold:</u> Irritated throat, watery discharge from the nose and eyes, sneezing, chilliness, and general body discomfort. Your child should remain home if symptoms are serious enough to interfere with your child's ability to learn. Medical care should be obtained if symptoms persist beyond 2-5 days, fever develops along cold sores, or discharge becomes yellow or green.</p> <p><u>Fever:</u> If a child's temperature is 100 degrees or greater, he/she should remain home until he/she has been without fever for a full 24 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medication. Remember that fever is a symptom indicating the presence of an illness.</p> <p><u>Flu:</u> Abrupt onset of fever, chills, headache and sore muscles. Runny nose, sore throat, and cough are common. Your child should remain home from school until symptoms are gone and the child is without fever for a full 24 hours.</p> <p><u>Head Lice:</u> Lice are a small grayish-tan, wingless insects that lay eggs called nits. Nits firmly attach to their shaft, close to the scalp. Nits are much easier to see and detect than lice are. They are small white specks, which are usually found at the nape of the neck and behind the ears. Following a lice infestation, your child may return to school after receiving treatment with a lice shampoo, AND ALL NITS HAVE BEEN REMOVED.</p> <p><u>Impetigo:</u> Blister-like lesions, which later develop into crusted pus-like sores. Your child should remain at home from school until receiving 24 hours of antibiotic therapy and the sores are no longer draining.</p> <p><u>Pinkeys:</u> Redness and swelling of the membranes of the eye with burning or itching, discharge coming from one or both eyes, or crust on the eyelids. Your child should remain home from school until receiving 24 hours of antibiotic therapy and discharge from eyes have stopped.</p> <p><u>Skin Rashes:</u> A physician should immediately evaluate skin rashes of unknown origin before your child is sent to school.</p> <p><u>Strep Throat:</u> Strep throat begins with fever, sore and red throat, pus spots on the back of the throat, tender swollen glands of the neck. High fever, nausea and vomiting may also occur. Your child should remain home from school until receiving full 24 to 72 hours of antibiotic therapy.</p> <p><u>Vomiting and Diarrhea:</u> Stomach ache, cramping, nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea, possible fever, headache and body aches. Your child should remain at home until all vomiting, diarrhea or fever clears for a full 24 hours. If your child has any of these symptoms during the night, he/she SHOULD NOT BE SENT TO SCHOOL THE FOLLOWING DAY.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ALL THE SYMPTOMS LISTED ABOVE ARE HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS AND THE SCHOOL WILL REQUEST A DOCTOR'S RELEASE THAT HE/SHE IS ABLE TO RETURN TO SCHOOL.</p>	<p>A child may return to school if he/she no longer has cough producing phlegm, sneezing, and no longer discharging green/yellow mucous through the nose. Cold sores must have scabbed and child is no longer drooling. For the sake of the other children, keep them out of contact and school as much as possible.</p> <p>A child may return to school if he/she has been fever-free for 24 hours without the aid of fever suppressant medication.</p> <p>The child should be free of symptoms, like coughing, sneezing, wheezing, body ache before returning to school. <i>Common ear infections are not contagious.</i> The only reason to keep a child with an ear infection out of school is for his or her own comfort and proper administration of antibiotics.</p> <p>Child must be free of lice and nits, plus proof of treatment is required.</p> <p>Child is on medication for 24 hours and sores must be dried and covered.</p> <p>A child who has an inflamed or draining eye should be kept out of school until examined by a physician and has received 24 hours of antibiotics. A doctor's release will be required.</p> <p>A child may return to school once the doctor has diagnosed the rash and child is no longer contagious.</p> <p>Child must be on antibiotic for 24 hours before returning to school. A Doctor's release will be required.</p> <p>Free of diarrhea for 24 hours without the use of medication. Child has ceased to vomit for 24 hours and all symptoms are clear.</p>