

## **Guidelines on when to keep your child home from school:**

1. **FEVER** greater than 100°F – A fever signals an illness that is probably going to make your child uncomfortable and unable to function well in class. Your child may have a fever in the evening, then be without fever the next morning. If sent to school, the fever may return later in the school day. Please keep your child home until fever-free for 24 hours without the help of fever-reducing medications.
  2. **COUGH** – If moderate or severe, persistent, coughing spells, or needs medication to control.
  3. **COLD SYMPTOMS** – If your child is moderately uncomfortable, has a constant runny nose with green or yellow discharge, exhaustion, or muscle or body aches, please keep your child at home to provide rest and adequate fluids.
  4. **VOMITING, DIARRHEA** – Keep your child home for 24 hours after vomiting or diarrhea stops and until he/she can keep fluids and food down.
  5. **SORE THROAT** – If your child has a sore throat but no other symptoms, they may go to school. If the sore throat is severe enough to interfere with swallowing or if white spots can be seen in the back of the throat or a fever is present, keep your child at home. Strep throat is a highly contagious condition caused by bacterial infection. Symptoms include sore throat accompanied by fever, pus in the back of the throat, or rash. A child with strep throat needs to be kept at home, medically evaluated and treated with antibiotics for 24 hours.
  6. **UNDIAGNOSED SKIN RASH** – A rash may be the first sign of one of many childhood illnesses. If a rash is present, your child should see a healthcare provider to determine if it is safe to be at school.
  7. **ANTIBIOTIC THERAPY** – Antibiotics are sometimes prescribed to treat bacterial infections. If antibiotics are prescribed your child must be on them 24 hours before returning to school.
  8. **HEADACHE** – Keep your child at home if headache is severe enough to interfere with learning. Over the counter pain medication can be given to your child if you bring properly labeled original container with medication authorization form. (see “Medication Administration Policy and Procedure” tab).
  9. **OPEN SORES** - Any sores with drainage should be covered. The school nurse may OK open sores that are covered with bandages.
  10. **PINKEYE** – If the whites of the eye(s) are completely red, if yellow or green discharge or crusting that day or morning, or discomfort will interfere with learning, your child should stay home.
  11. **EARACHE** – If your child has moderate or severe pain, consult your health care provider immediately.
  12. **HEADLICE** – A parent may keep their child home until proper lice treatment is completed. Please call your school nurse for lice removal tips and visit the health services tab on the school district website for further information.
- **If you have any questions about these guidelines, contact the school nurse.**
  - **Call your school if communicable disease such as chicken pox, pertussis (whooping cough), hand foot and mouth, or any new specific health condition or allergy in your child.**
  - **If a student is absent for 3 full days of school, they must provide a note from a healthcare provider upon returning to school.**