



**Building Excellence  
Health Services**

**Sick Day Exclusions**

There are times when, as parents, we are unsure if our child should attend school or stay home and seek medical attention. This list serves as a guideline in managing students and is not inclusive. All students will be evaluated by a qualified, professional school nurse who works collaboratively with other nursing team members, parents, school staff, and community clinicians. The decision to send your child home will be individualized, based on your child’s recent and past medical history, and done using sound clinical reasoning and professional nursing judgement. Our goal is to help students be healthy, safe, and ready to learn!

**WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME:**

<b>SYMPTOMS:</b>	<b>DOES YOUR CHILD NEED TO BE HOME?</b>
<b>FEVER:</b> body temperature greater than 100.4°F [38.3°C]	<b>YES</b> – for body temperature greater than 100.4°F, keep your child home for at least <b>24 hours after the fever has gone.</b> Child must be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine, such as Tylenol or Motrin.
<b>VOMITING:</b> Two or more episodes of vomiting in the past 24 hours.	<b>YES</b> – until vomiting resolves. Your child may return to school once he/she has not vomited for 24 hours. Student should be observed for other symptoms of illness and dehydration.
<b>DIARRHEA:</b> Frequent, loose or watery poop (stool) compared to child’s normal pattern; not caused by diet or medication.	<b>YES</b> – if they are having "accidents" from the diarrhea, have more than 2 stools above their normal per 24-hours, stools contain more than 1 drop of blood or mucus, if child looks or acts ill, if child has body temp greater than 100.4°F.
<b>COVID:</b> A virus that causes fever, chills, cough, fatigue, body aches, headache, and/or sore throat.	<b>YES</b> – if child is positive; stay home a minimum of 5 days <u>and</u> until 24-hours fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medication.
<b>CONJUNCTIVITIS:</b> Pink/reddish color to white part of the eye; may have discharge that is yellow or greenish in color.	<b>YES</b> – until discharge and signs of infection have cleared or completion of 24-hour treatment with prescribed ophthalmic solution (prescription eye drops).

<p><b>IMPETIGO:</b> Blister like lesions (sores) which develop into pustules. May “weep” and have a honey-colored crust.</p>	<p><b>YES</b> – for 24 hours after medical treatment initiated. Lesions must be covered for school attendance.</p>
<p><b>RINGWORM:</b> A common skin infection, usually resulting in red, itching, scaly circular rash.</p>	<p><b>NO</b> – treatment should be initiated. Lesions must be covered for school attendance.</p>
<p><b>RASH WITH FEVER:</b> Any new rash accompanied by a fever.</p>	<p><b>YES</b> – seek medical advice. May return after rash goes away or clearance given by a healthcare provider.</p>
<p><b>OPEN WOUND:</b> Any open wound, draining or pustule (pus-like) lesion on the skin.</p>	<p><b>YES</b> – if any drainage from a sore that cannot be contained within a bandage or sores that are increasing in size or new sores need to be evaluated by a healthcare provider.</p>
<p><b>OTHER:</b> Symptoms that prevent the student from active participation in usual school activities or student is requiring more care than school can safely provide.</p>	<p><b>YES</b> – recommendations from a healthcare provider are indicated.</p>

Please consult your child’s healthcare provider promptly if you have any questions or concerns about the condition of your child. Follow directions from your child’s healthcare provider and school nurse before returning to school.

**REFERENCES:**

American Academy of Pediatrics. (2022 Dec). *When to Keep Your Child Home*.  
<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/family-life/work-and-child-care/Pages/when-to-keep-your-child-home-from-child-care.aspx>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2023 Feb). *Parent Information*.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/parents/index.html>