

When Should I Keep My Child Home?

Sometimes it's hard to tell if your child needs to go to school or stay home. Here are some guidelines to help you make the best decision. Please keep your child home if he or she has:

- Fever over 100 degrees or higher, taken orally (skin and ear thermometers can be unreliable). Your child must be fever-free (without the use of any medicine) for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Diarrhea or vomiting - keep your child home until illness is over and for 24 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhea (without the use of any medicine). If diarrhea or vomiting occurred during the night, your child needs to stay home.
- Pink eye (conjunctivitis) - keep your child home until the doctor has given the OK to return, and once treatment has been given for 24 hours.
- Rash (boils, blisters, sores, bumps, oozing or crusted areas, or any rash with a fever) - any rash of unknown cause should be considered contagious. Please have your child examined by the doctor, to determine the cause and whether it is contagious. Your child should return to school with a note from the doctor, stating the rash is not contagious.
- Lice - your child must be treated with a lice shampoo, and all nits (eggs) removed before returning to school. Notify the school nurse, who will examine your child before he or she may return to school.
- Strep throat and scarlet fever - your child may return to school with the doctor's permission, after an antibiotic has been given for 24 hours and the fever is gone.
- Chicken pox - your child must stay home for six (6) days after the last crop of blisters appears. The blisters must be dried and crusted over, with no drainage.

For the protection of the other students and staff, your child will be sent home if any of the above conditions or illnesses are found or suspected during the school day.