

# When to Keep Your Child at Home

The following guidelines are used to determine dismissals and may be helpful for parents to determine appropriate attendance. **Keep your child home from school if he or she has:**

**Fever - 100 degrees or higher** - A fever is a sign of illness. A child with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher should not attend school. The child should be free of fever (without the use of antipyretics such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen) for 24 hours before returning to school.

**Colds/Cough** - Minor cold symptoms are common and usually don't interfere with school attendance. A persistent, frequent cough and/or constant nasal drainage may affect your child's performance at school, and he/she may be more comfortable at home.

**Sore Throat** - A sore throat accompanied by a fever, nausea, stomach ache, body aches, headache with bright red appearance, swollen tonsils, white patches or streaks of pus should be evaluated by a medical doctor prior to coming to school. Written clearance to attend school should be obtained by the evaluating physician.

**Rash** - A rash may cover the entire body or only one area. A child that has a rash that is draining, has open areas or is causing the child to itch excessively should not attend school. A student with a rash accompanied with other symptoms such as: a fever, sore throat, irritability, vomiting, etc. should not attend school. Rashes with a concerning appearance should be evaluated by a medical doctor prior to the student coming to school. Written clearance to attend school should be obtained by the evaluating physician.

**Vomiting/Diarrhea** - A child who has vomited should wait 24 hours and be able to retain solid foods before returning to school. A child who is having frequent diarrhea stools should not attend school. If there is cramping/abdominal pain with diarrhea, the student may be more comfortable at home.

**Eye Infection** - a child who has pink bloodshot eyes with yellow or green drainage or crusted lashes should be evaluated by a medical doctor prior to coming to school. Written clearance to attend school should be obtained by the evaluating physician.

**24-Hour Antibiotic Therapy** - Any child with a contagious condition, such as strep throat or bacterial conjunctivitis (pink eye), must be taking the medication for 24 hours before returning to school.

**Lice or Nits** - A child must be checked by the school nurse before returning to the classroom to be sure that he/she is nit free following lice treatment. The student must be driven to school since they are not permitted to ride the bus until the school nurse checks them. Please see the "Lice Advice" sheet for tips on monitoring, reporting found cases and managing lice once they are discovered.

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**After any illness, it is important to allow your child to rest and recover before sending him/her back to school.**

**When your child returns to school, he must bring a written excuse stating the dates and reason for absence. A parent or legal guardian must sign this excuse.**

**By following these guidelines, you will protect not only the health of your child, but the health of his classmates and school staff as well!**