



When to Keep Your Student Home from School Updated August 2024

There are times when your student should not attend school. Keeping your student home at these times will help prevent the spread of illness to other students at school. Please follow provider instructions if excused from school due to illness/chronic condition/surgery/injury. The following recommendations are based on the latest guidance from the CDC.

If you have any questions, please contact your School Nurse.

Illness	What to Do?
Difficulty breathing or other signs of serious illness	Keep student home. See healthcare provider for evaluation.
Chickenpox (Varicella)	<p>Keep student home until they have no new sores for 24 hours AND all sores are dried and crusted.</p> <p>An evaluation by a medical provider is strongly encouraged to provide future proof of immunity to chickenpox. School nurse must be notified if student has chickenpox.</p> <p>**During an outbreak of chickenpox (5 cases or more), students who are NOT vaccinated for chickenpox (Varicella) and have been in close contact with someone sick with the infection will not be allowed at school for 21 days after they were last exposed to chickenpox, even if not sick.</p>
Diarrhea	<p>Keep your student home until it has been 24 hours since the last episode of diarrhea; AND</p> <p>It has been at least 24 hours since the student last had a fever (without using fever-reducing medications).</p> <p>**If diarrhea cannot be controlled and/or has blood/mucus in it or with a fever: Keep your child home and see a healthcare provider.</p>
Fever with oral temperature of 100.4 F or higher	Keep student home until fever free for 24 hours <u>without</u> the use of fever reducing medications such as Tylenol or Motrin.
Head Lice	If lice are first found at school, student may stay until end of the day but may not return until treatment has been started and all live lice are gone.
Impetigo	Keep student home until after they have been on antibiotics for at least 24 hours and sores should be covered.
MRSA	Keep student home if sore is draining and cannot be covered with a clean, dry bandage. Keep student home if they cannot keep from picking at sore.

Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	Student should not return to school until they have finished all their antibiotics.
Pink Eye with white or yellow discharge or eye pain	Keep student home until seen by a healthcare provider and 24 hours after 1 st dose of medication, if prescribed.
Rash with fever or behavior change	Keep student home until evaluated by a healthcare provider and treated if necessary.
Respiratory Virus or Symptoms including COVID, Flu, and RSV	Keep student home if they have respiratory virus symptoms such as fever, chills fatigue, cough, runny nose, and headache that are not better explained by another cause such as seasonal allergies. They can return to school when they have had at least 24 hours with improved symptoms and no fever (and they are not using fever-reducing medication like acetaminophen or ibuprofen).
Ringworm	If ringworm is first found at school, student may stay until the end of the day IF it can be covered. Student may not return until treatment has been started. Area must remain covered until completely healed.
Sores	Keep student home if they have a skin sore on an uncovered part of their body that is draining fluid and is unable to be covered with a bandage.
Scabies	Student must stay home until after treatment is complete.
Strep Throat	Keep student home until 24 hours after antibiotics have been started.
Vomiting 2 or more times within 24 hours	Keep student home until able to tolerate regular diet and it has been at least 24 hours since last vomiting episode.