

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

Fever

- 100.5 degree F or above; students will be sent home at this temperature or above.
- Should remain fever free for 24 hours without the use of (Tylenol, Motrin/Advil) before returning to school.

Vomiting

- 2 or more times in the previous 24 hours unless determined by a healthcare provider it is not caused by a communicable condition and the child is not at risk for dehydration.
- Child should be free from vomiting for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Assessment of health services personnel will also be taken into consideration.

Diarrhea

- Frequent diarrhea especially when accompanied with other symptoms such as fever or body aches.
- Stay at home until free of diarrhea for 24 hours unless determined by a healthcare provider it is not caused by a communicable condition and the child is not at risk for dehydration.
- Assessment of health services personnel will also be taken into consideration.

Sore throat, "cold", cough

- Should remain at home until fever free and symptoms are only mild.

Strep Throat-highly contagious

- Symptoms seen could be throat pain, red swollen tonsils, white patches or pus on tonsils, fever, headache.
- Should be on antibiotics 24 hours and without fever before returning to school.
- Please let the office know if your child has been diagnosed with strep.

Mouth sores with drooling

- Until a medical exam indicates the child may return to school or until sores have healed.

Rash with fever or behavior change

- Rash of unknown cause should be examined by a healthcare provider. Child should remain at home until cause is determined.

"Pink" eye

- Redness of eyes and/or eyelids with thick white or yellow eye discharge and pain.
- Child is excluded until 24 hours after treatment has been started by a physician.
- Need to bring a note from the doctor stating child is being treated and what day he/she can return to school.

Impetigo, boils, abscesses, sties, infections, blister, sores

- Any open and/or oozing wounds/lesions must be treated and covered.
- Need a note from the doctor that lesions are being treated and that child may return to school.

Head Lice

- If lice/eggs are found in the hair of a student, the school nurse will be contacted for student evaluation.
- The parent/guardian of that student will be notified. All siblings of the infected student will also be checked.
- The school nurse will instruct the parents concerning various shampoos and sprays that can be purchased for head lice/eggs, and will also give information concerning necessary procedures to be taken in the home to ensure that the head lice are eradicated.
- To be readmitted to school, a student must be accompanied by a parent/ guardian or relative, and must be examined by the school nurse, or provide a note from a doctor's office stating the student no longer has lice.
- Within six to ten days after being readmitted to school, the student will be examined again by the school nurse. If at that time live lice are found, parents will again be called to discuss presence of live lice.
- It will be the responsibility of the school nurse to examine a student who is possibly infested with head lice or eggs, and to recommend his or her removal from school, if warranted. The nurse is also responsible for recommending readmission of the student after treatment is completed.

- If it appears the parent/guardian of an infested student is failing to secure timely treatment for the infestation after having been given notice of the existence of head lice or eggs under these procedures, resulting in a prolonged period of absence of the student from school, the matter may be reported to the appropriate family/youth services and law enforcement agencies.

Ringworm of scalp

- May attend 24 hours after treatment started. Must bring a note from the doctor that child is being treated.
- Upon returning to school ringworm lesion must be covered by clothing and/or bandages.
- Child may not participate in close contact activities until 72 hours after treatment started.

Scabies

- Infectious disease of the skin caused by a mite.
- Must be excluded until 24 hours after treatment begins.
- Must bring a note from the doctor that child is being treated.

Hepatitis A

- Unusual color of skin, eyes, stool, or urine.
- Spread through stools.
- If diagnosed, should have a note from the doctor saying the child may return to school.

Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

- Must be evaluated by a medical provider.
- Should not return to school until after 5 days of antibiotic treatment and note from provider.
- During first 5 days of antibiotics, student should NOT participate in ANY school or community activities.
- Must be excluded for 21 days after onset of cough if not treated with antibiotics.

Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease

- Until Fever free and child is well enough to participate in routine activities(sores or rash may still be present)

Immunizations

- In the event of an outbreak, students who are exempt from immunizations for any reason will be excluded from school for their own protection and that of other students. School staff will notify parents/guardians appropriately.

Resource

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Bureau of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention. (2011). *A Guide for School Administrators, Nurses, Teachers, Child Care Providers, and Parents or Guardians*

The best defense against illness is frequent and thorough handwashing.

IF YOUR CHILD BECOMES ILL AT SCHOOL

Make sure the school has current contact information for you (Home #, Work #, Cell #). We need to be able to reach you if your child becomes ill or in case of an accident/emergency.

It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to make arrangements for the student to be picked up if they become ill during school hours. If you are unable to pick up your child you will need to have a backup plan. Please make arrangements with relatives, friends, neighbors, or a sitter to pick your child up when he/she is ill at school.

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