

When Should I Keep My Child Home From School Because of Illness?

As general guidelines, keep your child home if:

- child has a fever-temperature above 100.4 Fahrenheit
- child is not well enough to participate in class
- you think they may be contagious to other children
- if diagnosed with certain communicable diseases such as pertussis, mumps or measles

Specific reasons to keep your child home:

- Vomiting/Diarrhea - A child with vomiting and/or diarrhea needs to stay home from school. Your child can return to school when the symptoms have stopped and the child can tolerate a regular diet.
- Rash - A rash with symptoms such as trouble breathing or swallowing, fever, or ill appearance, should be evaluated by your physician.
- Sore throat - Children can attend school with mild sore throat if no other symptoms are occurring. Any child with a sore throat associated with fever, vomiting, abdominal pain, or difficulty swallowing should be seen by a doctor. A child with strep throat needs to stay out of school until on antibiotics for 24 hours.
- Cough - Cough alone may not prevent your child from attending school unless it is interfering with a child's sleep or ability to participate in school activities.
- Pinkeye - For pinkeye caused by bacteria, children should stay home from school for the first 24 hours after treatment begins. Symptoms of pinkeye include eye redness, irritation, swelling, and drainage.



**School
Nurse**