

GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING STUDENTS HOME

Regular attendance at school is important. A student should be in class every day that he or she is physically able. However, students with contagious conditions are not allowed to attend school during the time they are likely to transmit an illness. This not only gives the student an opportunity to rest and recover, but also it keeps others at school from becoming infected by illnesses that may spread quickly among children. If a student becomes ill while at school, the parents are expected to make arrangements to transport the student home.



A student should NOT be in school if any of the following are present:

- **Fever or chills.** A child with a fever should remain at home for 24 hours after the temperature returns to normal without medication.
- **Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.** Students who experience gastrointestinal upsets should not return to school until 24 hours after the symptoms are gone.
- **Cough, sore throat,** or cold symptoms severe enough to interfere with the child's ability to learn.
- **Severe, persistent pain or other signs of illness.** The child should be checked by a physician to determine the cause and the proper treatment.
- **Earache** or drainage from the ears.
- **Inflamed or reddened eyes.** A physician should be consulted (especially if the eyes are watering, itching, or draining) to determine if pink eye exists.
- **Skin lesions, sores, or rashes.** A physician should evaluate a student with skin abnormalities to determine the appropriate treatment and whether it is safe for the child to attend school.
- **Chicken pox**
- **Lice or nits** (lice eggs) in the hair.

A student who has been ill should not return to school until he or she is over the illness. Since a student who returns too soon often experiences a relapse, it is certainly in the student's best interest to stay at home until recovery is complete.