

Guidelines For When To Keep A Sick Student Home:

FEVER: The average body temperature is about 98.6°F, measured orally. A fever is a high body temperature and is a sign that the body is fighting an infection. Technically, a temperature of 100.5°F is considered a fever. If the only symptom a child has is an elevated temperature, they will be sent home if their temperature is 100.5°F or over. If the child has a lower temperature that is accompanied by other symptoms or illness, it may be appropriate to send the child home. The child should be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.

COLD AND COUGH: A child with thick or constant nasal drainage should remain home. Very few younger children can effectively blow their noses and wash their hands afterwards; this can quickly spread the illness to other students. Keep home if he/she has a persistent cough. He/she probably feels miserable and will not learn much, as well as sharing the virus with others.

STREP THROAT: A child with strep throat may return to school 24 hours after antibiotic treatment has begun.

VOMITING AND/OR DIARRHEA: Keep them home. The child may return to school after being symptom free for 24 hours.

PINK EYE: Following a diagnosis of conjunctivitis (pink eye), the child may return to school 24 hours after treatment has begun.

CHICKEN POX: The child should stay home until there are no new spots and all old ones are scabbed over. Usually 7-10 days.

RASH: Keep your child home until a medical exam indicates the rash is not contagious.