

Should My Child Go To School Today?

A Guideline for Parents

- **Fever:** If your child has a fever (a temperature of 100 degrees F or greater) they should remain at home until they have been fever free for a full 24 hours without fever reducing medication and they have returned to their typical behavior. **It is important for you to take your child's temperature before giving fever reducing medicine.**
- **Vomiting and/or Diarrhea:** Your child should remain at home until they have been without any episodes of vomiting or diarrhea for a full 24 hours and have resumed a typical diet. If your child has had any of these symptoms during the night they should not be sent to school the following day.
- **Cold Symptoms:** Runny noses are a fact of life for little ones. However, if the drainage is thick, green or if your child has a persistent or productive cough, please have your child stay home and consider consulting with your child's doctor. A constant dry cough can be a sign of a more serious respiratory problem and a doctor should be notified.
- **Redness or Discharge from the eye:** Redness of the white part of the eye, burning or itching, yellow or white matter around the eye or crusted eyelashes are signs of pink eye or conjunctivitis. Your child should remain home until they have seen a doctor and have been on medication for 24 hours. **This is very contagious.**
- **Rashes:** Rashes can be difficult to evaluate. Skin rashes of unknown origin should be evaluated by a doctor before your child is sent to school.
- **Sore Throat:** If your child has a persistent or severe sore throat they should remain home. You should consider contacting your child's doctor if there is fever, white patches on the tonsils, swollen glands, red rash, headache or stomachache. These could indicate a possible strep infection. If that is the case, your child should remain at home until they have had 24 hours of antibiotics and have resumed typical activity.
- **Earache:** If your child complains of ear pain they should remain at home until they can be evaluated by their doctor.

Please remember that these are just guidelines. This is for the benefit of your child as well as other students in the class. If you have any questions please call the school nurse.

Thank you,

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