

School Health Program

A Division of the MAHEC Family Health Center

When to Keep Your Student Home from School

There are times when your student should not attend school. Keeping your student home at these times will prevent the spread of illness to other students at school.

If you have questions, please contact your School Nurse, ______.

ILLNESS	WHAT TO DO?
Difficulty breathing or other signs of	Keep student home. See Healthcare Provider.
serious illness	**See COVID-19
Chickenpox	Keep student home until they have no new sores for 24 hours AND all
	sores are dried and crusted.
	**During an outbreak of chickenpox, students who are NOT vaccinated
	for chickenpox (Varicella) and have been in close contact with someone
	sick with the infection will not be allowed at school for 21 days after they
	were last exposed to chickenpox, even if not sick.
COVID-19 (positive antigen or	Keep student home until:
PCR/molecular test)	It has been at least 5 days after the first day of symptoms (or
	specimen collection date if asymptomatic); AND
	It has been at least 24 hours since the student had a fever
	(without using fever reducing medicine); AND
	Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving
	**Student should wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days after the first day
	of symptoms to minimize the risk of infecting others, unless an
	exemption to mask use applies. The student may remove their mask
00)//10 10 11 11	sooner following 2 sequential negative tests 48 hours apart.
COVID-19 symptoms, including:	Keep student home until:
• Fever or chills • Cough • Shortness	Student has received a negative PCR/molecular test for COVID-
of breath or difficulty breathing •	19 OR an alternate diagnosis from a healthcare provider AND: o It has been at least 24 hours since the student had a fever
Fatigue • Muscle or body aches • Headache • New loss of taste or	
smell • Sore throat • Congestion or	(without using fever reducing medicine); AND o They have felt well for at least 24 hours
runny nose • Nausea or vomiting •	o They have felt well for at least 24 hours
Diarrhea	OR
Barriod	J. C.
	o It has been at least 5 days after the first day of symptoms
	AND
	o It has been at least 24 hours since the student had a fever
	(without using fever reducing medicine); AND
	o Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving
	**Unless student has received a negative PCR/molecular test or

	alternate diagnosis, they should wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days after the first day of symptoms to minimize the risk of infecting others, unless an exemption to mask use applies. The student may remove their mask sooner following 2 sequential negative tests 48 hours apart.
Diarrhea that cannot be controlled and/or has blood/mucus in it or with a fever	Keep student home. See Healthcare Provider. **See COVID-19
Fever with oral temperature 100.4 F or higher and not feeling well enough to participate in class	Keep student home until fever-free for 24 hours <u>without</u> using fever- reducing medicine such as Motrin or Tylenol **See COVID-19
Head lice	If lice are first found at school, student may stay until end of the day but may not return until treatment has been started and all live lice are gone.
Illness that prevents the student from	Student may return to school when able to take part in activities.
taking part in class activities easily	
Impetigo	Keep student home until 24 hours after antibiotics have been started.
MRSA	Keep student home if sore is draining and cannot be covered with a clean, dry bandage. Keep student home if they cannot keep from picking at sore.
Pink eye with white or yellow	Keep student home until seen by a healthcare provider and 24 hours
discharge or eye pain	after 1 st dose of medicine, if prescribed.
Rash with fever or behavior change	Keep student home until seen by a healthcare provider and treated if needed.
Ringworm	If ringworm is first found at school, student may stay until end of the day if it can be covered. Student may not return until treatment has been started. Area must remain covered until completely healed.
Scabies	Student must stay home until after treatment is complete.
Strep throat	Keep student home until 24 hours after antibiotics have been started.
Vomiting 2 or more times within 24 hours	Keep student home until able to tolerate regular diet. **See COVID-19

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