







PLEASE KEEP STUDENTS WITH SYMPTOMS OUT OF SCHOOL

This list is school instructions, not medical advice. Please contact your health care provider with health concerns.

SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS	THE STUDENT MAY RETURN AFTER...
 <p>Fever: temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or greater</p>	<p>*Fever-free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine.</p>
 <p>New cough illness</p>	<p>* Symptoms improving for 24 hours (no cough or cough is well-controlled).</p>
 <p>New difficulty breathing</p>	<p>* Symptoms improving for 24 hours (breathing comfortably). <i>Urgent medical care may be needed.</i></p>
 <p>Diarrhea: 3 loose or watery stools in a day OR not able to control bowel movements</p>	<p>*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
 <p>Vomiting: one or more episode that is unexplained</p>	<p>*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
 <p>Headache with stiff neck and fever</p>	<p>*Symptom-free OR with orders from doctor to school nurse. Follow fever instructions above. <i>Urgent medical care may be needed.</i></p>
<p>Skin rash or open sores</p>	<p>*Symptom free, which means rash is gone OR sores are dry or can be completely covered by a bandage OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
<p>Red eyes with colored drainage</p>	<p>*Symptom-free, which means redness and drainage are gone OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
<p>Jaundice: new yellow color in eyes or skin</p>	<p>*After the school has orders from doctor or local public health authority to school nurse.</p>
<p>Acting differently without a reason: unusually sleepy, grumpy, or confused.</p>	<p>*Symptom-free, which means return to normal behavior OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
<p>Major health event, like an illness lasting 2 or more weeks OR a hospital stay, OR health condition requires more care than school staff can safely provide.</p>	<p>*After the school has orders from doctor to school nurse AND after measures are in place for the student's safety. Please work with school staff to address special health-care needs so the student may attend safely.</p>

screening for illness, reporting of illness, and length of exclusion related to specific symptoms of concern.

Symptom-Based Exclusion Guidelines

Students and staff **must** be excluded from the school setting if they are in the communicable stages of a school-restrictable disease. Symptoms which commonly indicate a communicable disease are listed below.

Students and staff **should** be excluded from the school setting if they exhibit:

1. **FEVER:** a measured temperature equal to or greater than 100.4°F orally.
 - **MAY RETURN AFTER** fever-free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine.
2. **COUGH:** persistent cough that is not yet diagnosed and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider **OR** any acute (non-chronic) cough illness that is frequent or severe enough to interfere with participation in usual school activities.
 - **MAY RETURN AFTER** symptoms improving for 24 hours (no cough or cough well-controlled.)
3. **DIFFICULTY BREATHING OR SHORTNESS OF BREATH** not explained by situation such as exercise: feeling unable to catch their breath, gasping for air, breathing too fast or too shallowly, breathing with extra effort such as using muscles of the stomach, chest, or neck.
 - **MAY RETURN AFTER** symptoms improving for 24 hours.
 - This symptom is likely to require immediate medical attention
4. **HEADACHE WITH STIFF NECK AND FEVER.**
 - **MAY RETURN AFTER** fever-free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine **AND** symptoms resolve.
 - This combination of symptoms may indicate a serious condition. Advise student's guardian to seek medical attention.
5. **DIARRHEA:** three or more watery or loose stools in 24 hours **OR** sudden onset of loose stools **OR** student unable to control bowel function when previously able.
 - **MAY RETURN AFTER** 48 hours after diarrhea resolves **OR** after seen and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider or LPHA for specific diarrheal diagnoses.
6. **VOMITING:** at least 1 episode that is unexplained.
 - **MAY RETURN AFTER** 48 hours after last episode of vomiting **OR** after seen and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider.

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7. **SKIN RASH OR SORES:** new rash² not previously diagnosed by a health care provider **OR** rash increasing in size **OR** new unexplained sores or wounds **OR** draining rash, sores, or wounds which cannot be completely covered with a bandage and clothing.
 - **MAY RETURN AFTER** rash is resolved **OR** until draining rash, sores or wounds are dry or can be completely covered **OR** after seen and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider.

8. **EYE REDNESS AND DRAINAGE:** unexplained redness of one or both eyes **AND** colored drainage from the eyes **OR** eye irritation accompanied by vision changes **OR** symptoms such as eye irritation, pain, redness, swelling or excessive tear production that prevent active participation in usual school activities.
 - **MAY RETURN AFTER** symptoms resolve **OR** after seen and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider.
 - Eye redness alone, without colored drainage, may be considered for attendance per CDC guidelines and school nurse assessment.

9. **JAUNDICE:** yellowing of the eyes or skin that is new or uncharacteristic.
 - **MAY RETURN AFTER** seen and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider.

10. **BEHAVIOR CHANGE:** may include uncharacteristic lethargy, decreased alertness, confusion, or a behavior change that prevents active participation in usual school activities.
 - **MAY RETURN AFTER** symptoms resolve; return to normal behavior **OR** after seen and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider.
 - These symptoms may indicate a serious condition. Advise student’s guardian to seek medical attention.

11. **MAJOR HEALTH EVENT or STUDENT REQUIRING MORE CARE THAN SCHOOL STAFF CAN SAFELY PROVIDE.** May include an illness lasting more than two weeks, emergency room treatment or hospital stay, a surgical procedure with potential to affect active participation in school activities, loss of a caregiver or family member, or a new or changed health condition for which school staff is not adequately informed, trained, or licensed to provide care.
 - **MAY RETURN AFTER** health and safety are addressed.
 - Written instructions from a licensed healthcare provider are likely to be required.
 - Schools must comply with state and federal regulations such as the Americans with Disabilities Act ensuring free and appropriate public education (FAPE). School staff should follow appropriate process to address reasonable accommodations and school health service provision in accordance with applicable laws.

² Some children have chronic non-infectious skin conditions—e.g., eczema; they need not be excluded for apparent exacerbations of these conditions.