

WHEN SHOULD I SEND MY CHILD TO SCHOOL?

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Symptoms and Illnesses

Should My Child Go to School?

<p>Parent is Sick, Stressed, Hospitalized</p>	<p>YES - If you are sick, your child still needs to attend school. Your illness does not excuse your child from attending. We are all sick at times so plan ahead for these days. Get a neighbor, relative, or spouse to take your child to school and pick him or her up.</p>
<p>Chronic Diseases (Asthma, Diabetes, Sickle Cell, Epilepsy, etc.) Chronic disease is a long-lasting condition that can be controlled but not cured.</p>	<p>YES—Your child should attend school. Your school nurse will create an individualized plan to meet your child's health needs in school and train school personnel to care for your child.</p>
<p>Child Doesn't Want to Go to School Frequent crying, fear, anger; not wanting to socialize, behavior change; frequent stomachache, nausea, or headache. (These can be signs of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress, or fear.)</p>	<p>YES—You should keep your child in school, but try to determine what is causing the change. Talk to your school counselor, nurse, principal, or your child's teacher. Your child may be experiencing bullying or trauma, may be behind in his/her school work, or not getting along with others. Consider consulting your child's health care provider, if appropriate.</p>
<p>Cold Symptoms Stuffy nose/runny nose, sneezing, mild cough.</p>	<p>YES — If your child is able to do normal activities at home then you should send your child to school.</p>
<p>Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)</p>	<p>YES - Your child should attend school, but contact your child's health care provider if there is pain, swelling, or is very sensitive to light. Keep home ONLY if your child is too ill to participate, has a fever, or if keeping home is recommended by child's own doctor.</p>
<p>Head Lice</p>	<p>YES— After initial treatment of shampooing of hair with a product for lice, it is mandatory to return to school the next day via the health office for clearance to return to class. Additional absences for lice are unexcused without consultation with the school health office.</p>
<p>Strains, Sprains, Pains</p>	<p>YES - If there is no known injury and your child is able to function (walk, talk, eat) he/she should be in school. If pain is severe or doesn't stop, consult your child's health care provider.</p>
<p>Menstrual Issues</p>	<p>YES - Most of the time menstrual (periods) issues should not be a problem. If they are severe and interfering with your daughter attending school, consult with her health care provider.</p>
<p>Fever</p>	<p>YES— If the fever is 100.4 or lower and child feels generally well, he/she should go to school. NO—If the fever is 100.5 or higher, child should stay home, especially if feeling ill. Child may return to school if fever-free <i>the preceding evening/night</i> without the help of fever-reducing medicine.</p>
<p>Diarrhea Frequent, loose or watery stools may mean illness but can also be caused by food or medication.</p>	<p>NO - Your child should stay home until diarrhea has stopped for 9-12 hours. If there is blood in the stool and/or accompanied by abdominal pain, fever, or vomiting, you should contact your child's health care provider. If no urine output for 8 hours, jaundiced skin, or child looks/acts very ill, see a doctor immediately.</p>
<p>Vomiting Child has vomited 2 or more times in a 24 hour period</p>	<p>NO— Your child should stay home until vomiting has stopped for 9-12 hours .</p>
<p>Severe Coughing Uncontrolled, rapid coughing, wheezing, or difficulty breathing</p>	<p>NO—Keep your child home and contact his/her health care provider if symptoms are new. If due to asthma and your child improves with prescribed medication, send to school. If no improvement with medication, contact your child's health care provider.</p>
<p>Rash</p>	<p>NO— Keep your child home if rash is undiagnosed, especially if spreading and accompanied by a fever and behavioral change. Contact your child's health care provider.</p>