

# A Quick Reference Guide for Parents

- Please keep your child home from school if he or she has one of the conditions or illnesses listed below.
- Report your child's absence to their school and consult their healthcare provider.
- All of the following require a Medical Note to return to school unless otherwise specified.
- Most of the conditions and illnesses are reportable to the Health Department during outbreaks only. *Illnesses noted (\*) are reportable for single cases.*

## Conjunctivitis (Pink-eye)

Children who have pink or red eyes with white or yellow discharge often with matted eyelids after sleep and eye pain or redness of the eyelids or skin surrounding the eye may have Purulent Conjunctivitis. They should be excluded from school while symptomatic or until 24 hours after antibiotic treatment. A medical note is required to return to school.

Children with pink eyes who have a clear, watery discharge without fever, eye pain, or eyelid redness do not need to be kept home.

## E.coli 0157\*

Children may experience nausea, vomiting, bloody diarrhea and abdominal cramps. They should be excluded from school until 24 hours without diarrheal stool. Reportable

## Fifth Disease (Erythema infectiosum)

The primary symptom of this illness is a rash, characterized by "slapped face" appearance and there is no specified exclusion for cases. Pregnant women and immunocompromised persons should seek medical advice.

## Head Lice

Children should be excluded from school if they are experiencing head scratching and live lice are present. Schools may adopt a nit free policy and parents should refer to school policy regarding the criteria for returning to school.

## Hepatitis A\*

Children should be excluded until one week after the onset of jaundice or illness.

## Influenza-Like-Illness\*

Children with fever, cough and/or sore throat (in absence of known cause), should be excluded until resolved. A parent note is required for returning to school.

## Measles

Children with prodrome characterized by fever, reddened eyes, runny nose, cough, dusky-red blotchy rash on day 3 or 4, should be excluded until 4 days after onset of rash.

## Meningitis\*

Bacterial/Viral - Children experiencing high fever, headache, and stiff neck should be excluded until recovered. \*Bacterial Meningitis is immediately reportable to Health Department.

## Mononucleosis

There are no school exclusion recommendations for this condition, however, a medical note to resume physical activities is required.

## Mumps\*

Children may return 5 days after the onset of parotid gland swelling.

## Pertussis\*

Children should be excluded until 5 days of appropriate antibiotic therapy, unless diagnosed with pertussis past the infectious period (21 or more days after cough onset).

## Rubella (German Measles)\*

Child should remain at home until 7 days after onset of rash.

## Salmonella typhi (typhoid fever)\*

Children should be excluded until after 24 hours without diarrhea.

## Salmonella nontyphoidal\*

There are no school exclusion recommendations for this condition if the child is not symptomatic (i.e., no diarrhea). A Parent Note is required for returning to school.

## Scabies

Children with this condition should remain out of school until 24 hours after application of appropriate scabidical treatment has been completed.

## Shigella (Dysentery)\*

Children may experience nausea, vomiting, bloody diarrhea and abdominal cramps. They should be excluded from school until 24 hours without symptoms.

## Staphylococcal or streptococcal skin infections (includes MRSA & Impetigo)\*

Exclude children from school whose lesions cannot be covered, until the student has received 48 hours of effective antimicrobial treatment, lesions are showing signs of healing (decreasing in size), and drainage has stopped. If lesion can be covered exclude from contact sports only. \*Two or more cases of confirmed MRSA cases are reportable to health dept.

## Streptococcal pharyngitis (strep throat)

Children can return to school 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment if there is no fever.

## Tinea Capitis (Ringworm of the scalp)

Children must be excluded from school until an oral antifungal treatment is initiated.

## Tinea Corporis (Ringworm of the body)

Children should be excluded from school until an oral or topical antifungal treatment is initiated, unless the affected area can be completely covered. A Parent Note is required for returning to school.

## Tuberculosis\*

Children with this condition must be excluded from school until the local health department and treating physician state that the student is noninfectious.

## Varicella (Chickenpox)\*

Children should be excluded from school until all lesions have dried and crusted (usually 6 days after the onset of the rash).

## Varicella Herpes Zoster (Shingles)

Keep children home who have lesions/sores/blisters that cannot be covered. Child may return to school once all lesions are dried/crusted.