

# Should I Keep My Child Home From School?

Our goal in giving you these guidelines is to reduce the spread of communicable disease at school and to promote a healthy environment for students attending school. They were created to help you in your decision making process as to whether to send your child to school or to keep your child at home.

## Chickenpox

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Your child should remain home until lesions have crusted. For cases with non-crusting lesions: until lesions are fading or until no new lesions occur.

## Cold with mild symptoms such as stuffy nose with clear drainage, mild cough

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

No. Your child may attend school if he or she is able to participate in school activities.

## Cough

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Keep your child home if the cough is persistent and productive coupled with thick or constant nasal drainage.

## Diarrhea

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Child should be kept home for 24 hours after the last episode of diarrhea without the use of any medication.

## Earache

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Child should be kept home if earache is accompanied by unusual drainage or has other symptoms such as a fever.

## Fever

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Child should stay home if their temperature is 100 degrees or more. Child must be fever free for 24 hours without medication before returning to school.

## Fifth Disease

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

No. By the time the rash appears, children are no longer contagious and do not need to stay home.

## Hand Foot Mouth Disease

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

No. If secretions from blisters can be contained, child does not need to stay home.

## Head Lice

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Child may return after their hair has been treated. Please see the Lice page on the FHPS district website under Health Information for further instructions on taking care of Lice at home.

## Impetigo

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Child may return to school 24 hours after treatment starts. Sores should be covered when child returns to school.

### Influenza type illness

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Child with Influenza-like illness (fever with a cough or sore throat) should stay home for 24 hours after fever has resolved without medication and cough has subsided.

### Mumps

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Child with mumps should stay home from school for a total of five days after the symptoms begin.

### Pink Eye (conjunctivitis)

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Child may return 24 hours after treatment is started.

### Poison Ivy

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

No. Poison Ivy is not contagious, so a child does not need to stay home. Open lesions should be covered when child is at school.

### Ringworm

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

No. Child may come to school as long as the area is being treated and that it remains covered when the child is at school. Student should exclude from contact sports and swimming until treatment has been initiated.

### Strep throat

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Child may return to school 24 hours after treatment has started and when fever is no longer present.

### Vomiting

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Child should be kept home for 24 hours after the last episode of vomiting without the use of any medication.

### Whooping cough

*Should I keep my child home from school?*

Yes. Child should not come to school until 5 days of appropriate treatment or he/she will need to be out of school for 21 days after the onset of symptoms.

Rashes can be caused by many things, a few of which may be contagious. A sudden appearance of a rash over any part of the body with an unknown cause and accompanied by fever or other symptoms should be evaluated by a doctor.

Generally, your child may return to school when he/she is free of signs and symptoms of illness.

If your child comes to school sick or becomes ill at school, we will call you and ask that you pick up your child immediately. If we cannot reach you, we will call your emergency contact person to pick up your child. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION IS ALWAYS UP TO DATE. If there is an extreme emergency regarding your child 911 will be called. We will make every effort to contact you.