

Many parents ask, "When is my child sick enough to stay home from school?"

This is not always an easy answer! We hope that these tips can help!

A child who is sick will not be able to perform well in school and is likely to spread the illness to other children and staff. We suggest making a plan for childcare ahead of time so you will not be caught without a comforting place for your child to stay if he/she is ill.

Our school policy states that you should not send your child to school if he/she has:

- fever, vomiting, diarrhea in the past 24 hours
- chills
- sore throat, strep throat (must have been taking antibiotic for at least 24 hours before returning to school)
- bad cold, with very runny nose or bad cough, especially if it has kept the child awake at night
- head lice - until your child has been treated according to the nurse or doctor's instructions

If your child becomes ill at school and the teacher or school nurse feel the child is too sick to benefit from school, or is contagious to other children, you will be called to come and take him/her home from school. It is essential that the school have current phone numbers where you can be contacted during the day, AND an emergency number in the event that you cannot be reached. Please be sure that arrangements can be made to transport your child home from school and that childcare is available in case of illness. If your daytime or emergency phone number changes during the school year, notify the school main office immediately.

Please call the school's Health Office if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank You,

Barbara Krzyseyniak, RN, School Nurse

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