

North Brookfield Public Schools

ILLNESS GUIDELINES

HOW SICK IS TOO SICK?

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME FROM SCHOOL

In the event that your child becomes sick please call the school

THERE ARE THREE MAIN REASONS TO KEEP CHILDREN AT HOME:

The child doesn't feel well enough to take part in normal activities.

The child needs more care than the nurse, teacher, staff can give.

The illness is on this list and staying home is recommended.

SYMPTOMS	CHILD MUST BE AT HOME?
DIARRHEA frequent, loose or watery stools compared to child's normal ones that are not caused by food or medicine.	YES: if your child looks or acts sick; if child has diarrhea with fever and isn't acting normally; if your child has diarrhea with vomiting.
FEVER with behavior change or other illness.	YES: for at least 24 hours after fever is gone, without the use of medicine that reduces the fever.
"FLU-LIKE" SYMPTOMS Fever of 100 degrees F with a cough or sore throat. Other flu symptoms can include tiredness, body aches, vomiting and diarrhea.	YES: when the child has a rash, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, sore muscles, difficulty breathing etc.
COUGHING Note: Children with asthma may go to school with a written health care plan and the school is allowed to give them medicine and treatment.	Yes: If severe, uncontrolled coughing or wheezing, rapid or difficulty breathing and medical attention is necessary.
Mild Respiratory or Cold Symptoms: stuffy nose with clear drainage, sneezing, mild cough	No: may attend if able to take part in school activities. Keep home if symptoms are severe. This includes fever and the child is not acting normally and/or has trouble breathing.

<p>Rash with Fever Note: Body rash without fever or behavior changes usually does not need to stay home from school, call the doctor.</p>	<p>Yes: call the doctor. Any rash that spreads quickly, has open weeping wounds and/or is not healing should be evaluated.</p>
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<p>VOMITING Throwing up two or more times in the past 24 hours.</p>	<p>YES: Until vomiting stops/MD states it is not contagious. Watch for dehydration.</p>
<p>CHICKEN POX</p>	<p>YES: until blisters have dried and crusted (usually 6 days).</p>
<p>CONJUNCTIVITIS (PINK EYE) Pink or red eyes with thick mucous or pus draining from the eye.</p>	<p>YES: May return 24hrs after treatment begins.</p>
<p>Croup: (see coughing) Note: May not need to stay home unless child is not well enough to take part in usual activities.</p>	<p>Seek medical advice</p>
<p>Fifth's Disease</p>	<p>No: Child is no longer contagious once rash appears.</p>
<p>Hand Foot and Mouth Disease (Coxsackie virus)</p>	<p>No: Unless the child has mouth sores, is drooling and isn't able to take part in usual activities.</p>
<p>Head Lice or Scabies</p>	<p>See Lice Policy</p>
<p>Hepatitis A</p>	<p>Yes: Until 1 week after the start of the illness and when able to take part in usual activities.</p>
<p>Herpes</p>	<p>No, unless the child has open sores that cannot be covered or is drooling uncontrollably.</p>
<p>Impetigo/Staph/MRSA infection</p>	<p>Yes: for 24 hours after starting antibiotics and then the wound must be covered with a clean dry dressing and taped on all four sides and secure.</p>

Ringworm	Yes: From the end of school until after starting treatment. Keep area covered for the first 2 days.
Roseola	Yes: If the child has a fever and a rash, call the doctor.

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)	Staying home isn't necessary but is recommended when a child is not well enough to take part in usual activities and/or is experiencing acute respiratory symptoms. Call the doctor. RSV spreads quickly through a classroom.
Strep Throat	Yes: For 24 hours after starting on antibiotics and the child is able to take part in usual activities.
Vaccine Preventable Diseases-measles, mumps, rubella, pertussis (whooping cough)	Yes: The doctor must state that the child is no longer contagious Also if a child is not vaccinated for a vaccine preventable illness they must be kept home until the danger of being infected by that illness has passed.
Yeast Infections-including thrush or Candida diaper rash.	No: Follow good hand washing and hygiene practices.