

## ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS

There may be mornings when it is difficult to tell whether or not your child is too ill to go to school. Taking your child's temperature is a good starting point. Some guidelines to help you make that decision are outlined below.

Frequent, vague complaints of not feeling well are common when children are anxious or even when they realize staying at home brings a little extra attention. It is wise to discuss this with your doctor and your child's teacher.

**Good attendance is important for student success!** If you decide to send your child to school when they are on the "borderline" of being sick, it is a good idea to contact the school nurse and/or teacher. Be sure to update your contact information with phone numbers you may be reached at during the day if your child's condition worsens.

- FEVER (Temp of 100 or greater) – Fever-free for 24 hours without the use of Tylenol or other fever-reducing medicine
- Pink Eye (Red, Inflamed or matting/discharge from eyes) – Permission issued by physician or symptom free
- Chicken Pox – Either lesions are dry or lesions are not blister-like and 24 hours have passed with no new lesions
- Diarrhea (3 or more loose stools in 24 hour period) – Diarrhea-free for 24 hours without the use of diarrhea suppressing medicine.
- Impetigo – Blisters and drainage must be contained and maintained in a clean dry bandage
- Influenza (Flu) – Symptom-free and Fever-free for 24 hours without the use of Tylenol or other fever-reducing medicine
- Ringworm – Infected area must be completely covered by clothing or bandage or treatment has begun
- Strep / Scarlet Fever – Effective antibiotic treatment for 24 hours and fever-free for 24 hours without the use of Tylenol or fever-reducing medicine.

(This is not an all-inclusive list – Check with your school nurse for additional information)

Remember, these are the minimum requirements for returning to school, not only to help prevent the spread of illnesses, but to give your child time to recuperate. If your child has been sick and the fever has been gone for over 24 hours, yet they are still vomiting, have a persistent cough or are lethargic, another day of rest at home, combined with lots of fluids may speed recovery.

IN ADDITION TO THE CONDITIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE, THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS MIGHT INDICATE AN INFECTIOUS CONDITION, SO PLEASE CONSIDER KEEPING YOUR CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL IF ANY OF THESE ARE PRESENT :

- Acute cold, sore throat, persistent cough, difficulty breathing
- Vomiting, nausea, abdominal pain
- Acute skin rashes, any skin lesions in the weeping stage
- Lethargic or unusually irritable behavior