



Illness Policy: How Sick is Too Sick? When to Keep Children at Home

There are three reasons to keep sick children at home:

1. The child does not feel well enough to participate comfortably in usual activities, (such as; extreme signs of tiredness, unexplained irritability or persistent crying.)
2. The child requires more care than school staff is able to provide, without affecting the health and safety of the other children.
3. The illness is on the list of symptoms or illness for which temporary exclusion is recommended.

Children with the following symptoms or illness should be kept from school:

SYMPTOM	Child Must Be at Home?
Diarrhea Frequent, loose or watery stools compared to child's normal pattern; not caused by diet or medication	Yes - if child looks or acts ill; if child has diarrhea with fever; if child has diarrhea with vomiting; if child has diarrhea that is not contained in toilet
Fever with or without behavior changes OR illness fever 100.0°F or greater.	Yes - when fever is accompanied by behavior changes (including fatigue) or other symptoms of illness, such as rash, sore throat, vomiting, etc. * See Below*
Flu Symptoms Fever over 100°F with a cough or sore throat. Other flu symptoms can include fatigue, body aches, vomiting and diarrhea	Yes - for at least 24 hours after there is no longer a fever, Without the use of fever reducing medicine
Coughing severe, uncontrolled coughing or wheezing, rapid or difficulty breathing <i>Note:</i> Children with asthma may be cared for in a school with a written health care plan and authorization for medication/treatment	Yes - medical attention is necessary
Mild Respiratory or Cold Symptoms Stuffy nose with clear drainage, sneezing, mild cough	No - may attend if able to participate in school activities