





## PLEASE KEEP ILL STUDENTS OUT OF SCHOOL

The list below gives school instructions, not medical advice. Please contact your health care provider with health concerns. **During 2020-2021, anyone exposed to COVID-19 must stay home for 14 days.**

SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS	THE STUDENT MAY RETURN AFTER...
 <b>Fever:</b> temperature of 100.4°F [38°C] or greater	<p>*The list below tells the shortest time to stay home. A student may need to stay home longer for some illnesses.</p> <p><b>*Fever-free for 24 hours</b> without taking fever-reducing medicine <b>AND</b> after a COVID-19 test is negative, <b>OR 10 days</b> if not tested.</p>
 New <b>cough</b> illness <b>OR</b> New <b>difficulty breathing</b>	<p><b>*Symptom-free for 24 hours AND</b> after a COVID-19 test is negative, <b>OR 10 days</b> if not tested.</p> <p>If diagnosed with pertussis (whooping cough), the student must take 5 days of prescribed antibiotics before returning.</p>
 <b>Headache</b> with stiff neck or with fever	<p><b>*Symptom-free OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse. Follow fever instructions if fever is present.</p>
 <b>Diarrhea:</b> 3 loose or watery stools in a day <b>OR</b> not able to control bowel movements	<p><b>*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
 <b>Vomiting:</b> one or more episode that is unexplained	<p><b>*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
<b>Skin rash or open sores</b>	<p><b>*Symptom free</b>, which means rash is gone OR sores are dry or can be completely covered by a bandage <b>OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
<b>Red eyes with eye discharge:</b> yellow or brown drainage from the eyes	<p><b>*Symptom-free</b>, which means redness and discharge are gone <b>OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
<b>Jaundice:</b> new yellow color in eyes or skin	<p><b>*After the school has orders</b> from doctor or local public health authority to school nurse.</p>
<b>Acting different without a reason:</b> unusually sleepy, grumpy, or confused.	<p><b>*Symptom-free</b>, which means return to normal behavior <b>OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse.</p>
<b>Major health event,</b> like an illness lasting 2 or more weeks OR a hospital stay.	<p><b>*After the school has orders</b> from doctor to school nurse.</p>
<b>Student's health condition requires more care than school staff can safely provide</b>	<p><b>*After measures are in place</b> for student's safety.</p>

## Symptom-Based Exclusion Guidelines

Students and staff should be excluded from the school setting if they exhibit:

**\*PRIMARY SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19:** See below and refer to [Planning for COVID-19 Scenarios in Schools](#) for updates and additional details during 2020-2021.

- **MAY RETURN** per symptom-specific guidance **AND**
- after COVID-19 test is negative (unless exposed)
- **OR** after 10 days if not tested (unless exposed)
- **OR** after 14 days if exposed to a positive case of COVID-19.
  - Following exposure to a case of COVID-19, may not return until 14 days since last exposure, regardless of test result.

**\*FEVER:** a measured temperature equal to or greater than 100.4°F orally. Temperature checked via other routes should be considered fever if equivalent to 100.4°F orally.

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** fever-free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine **AND** per guidance for primary COVID-19 symptoms.

**\*COUGH:** persistent cough that is not yet diagnosed and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider **OR** any acute (non-chronic) cough illness **OR** cough that is frequent or severe enough to interfere with active participation in usual school activities.

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** symptom-free for 24 hours (no cough or cough is well-controlled) **AND** per guidance for primary COVID-19 symptoms. If pertussis (“whooping cough”) is diagnosed by a licensed healthcare provider, student must be excluded from school until completion of a 5-day course of prescribed antibiotics or until cleared for return by the local public health authority.

**\*DIFFICULTY BREATHING OR SHORTNESS OF BREATH** not explained by situation such as exercise: feeling unable to catch their breath, gasping for air, breathing too fast or too shallowly, breathing with extra effort such as using muscles of the stomach, chest, or neck.

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** symptom-free for 24 hours **AND** per guidance for primary COVID-19 symptoms.
- This symptom is likely to require immediate medical attention.

### **HEADACHE WITH A STIFF NECK OR FEVER.**

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** symptoms resolve **AND** per fever guidelines if applicable.
- This combination of symptoms can indicate a serious condition. Medical attention strongly recommended.

**DIARRHEA:** three or more watery or loose stools in 24 hours **OR** sudden onset of loose stools **OR** student unable to control bowel function when previously able to do so

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** 48 hours after diarrhea resolves **OR** after seen and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider.

**VOMITING:** at least 1 episode that is unexplained

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** 48 hours after last episode of vomiting **OR** after seen and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider.

*List continues on next page*

**SKIN RASH OR SORES:** new rash not previously diagnosed by a health care provider **OR** if rash is increasing in size **OR** if new sores or wounds are developing day-to-day **OR** if rash, sores, or wounds are draining and cannot be completely covered with a bandage.

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** rash is resolved **OR** until sores and wounds are dry or can be completely covered with a bandage **OR** after seen and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider.

**EYE REDNESS AND DRAINAGE:** unexplained redness of one or both eyes **OR** colored drainage from the eyes **OR** eye irritation accompanied by vision changes **OR** symptoms such as eye irritation, pain, redness, swelling or excessive tear production that prevent active participation in usual school activities.

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** symptoms resolve **OR** after seen by a licensed healthcare provider and indicated therapy has been started.
- Eye redness alone, with no colored drainage, may be considered for attendance per [CDC guidelines](#) and school nurse assessment.

**JAUNDICE:** yellowing of the eyes or skin that is new or uncharacteristic.

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** seen and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider.

**BEHAVIOR CHANGE:** may include uncharacteristic lethargy, decreased alertness, increased irritability, increased confusion, or a behavior change that prevents active participation in usual school activities.

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** symptoms resolve; return to normal behavior **OR** after seen and cleared by a licensed healthcare provider.
- This symptom can indicate a serious condition. Medical attention strongly recommended.

**MAJOR HEALTH EVENT:** may include an illness lasting more than 2 weeks; an emergency room treatment or hospital stay; a surgical procedure with potential to affect vital signs or active participation in school activities; or a new or changed health condition for which school staff is not adequately informed, trained, or licensed to provide care.

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** health and safety are addressed.
- Medical attention strongly recommended. Written instructions from a licensed healthcare provider are likely to be required.
- School staff should follow appropriate process to address reasonable accommodations and school health service provision in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.

**STUDENT REQUIRING MORE CARE THAN SCHOOL STAFF CAN SAFELY PROVIDE**

- **MAY RETURN AFTER** health and safety are addressed.
- Medical attention strongly recommended. Written instructions from a licensed healthcare provider are likely to be required.
- School staff should follow appropriate process to address reasonable accommodations and school health service provision in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.