

Per [Communicable Diseases in School Settings, Essential Guidelines for School Nurses and Personnel](#). Most minor illnesses do not require a child's exclusion from the school setting. Exclusion and readmission to school requires a logical assessment of the seriousness of the presenting symptoms and the discomfort of the child and its fellow students.

*** Please note that many of the symptoms listed below can be treated by the School-Based Health Center.**

For more information, please speak with your school nurse, School-Based Health Center, or Adrienne Huval.

Presenting symptoms, additional complaints, and criteria for exclusion from and readmission to school are included.

SYMPTOM	ADDITIONAL COMPLAINTS	EXCLUSION CRITERIA	READMISSION CRITERIA
<u>Common cold</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever • Sore throat • Runny or stuffy nose • Sneezing • Coughing • Watery eyes • Conjunctivitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever accompanied by behavior change • Appears or acts very ill • Breathing difficulties • Existence of blood-red or purple rash apparently not associated with trauma 	Exclusion criteria are resolved
<u>Conjunctivitis (pinkeve)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever • Purulent discharge • Eye itchiness or burning • Eye swelling • Light sensitivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purulent discharge 	Exclusion criteria are resolved On medication (if indicated) at least for 24 hours
<u>Cough</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry, productive, whooping or barking cough • Runny or stuffy nose • Sore throat • Hoarse voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid, forced or difficulty/change of breathing • Severe, uncontrolled cough • Cyanosis • Wheezing 	Exclusion criteria are resolved
<u>Diarrhea</u> (stools are more frequent and looser than usual)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever • Stomach ache or abdominal cramps • Vomiting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The diarrhea cannot be contained in a toilet. • Presence of blood or mucus in the stool • Unusual stool color (very pale, all black or deep green) and change in odor • Additional symptoms present such as vomiting, fever, abdominal pain, etc 	When symptoms subside Stool is contained in diapers or the toilet
<u>Earache</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever • Purulent or bloody discharge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to participate in school activities • Additional symptoms present such as purulent or bloody discharge from ear 	Exclusion criteria are resolved

Fever (temperature over 101°F orally)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever alone does not require exclusion • Additional symptoms present such as a rash, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, etc 	Exclusion criteria are resolved
SYMPTOM	ADDITIONAL COMPLAINTS	EXCLUSION CRITERIA	READMISSION CRITERIA
Headache	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behavior change – is tired or irritable • May be accompanied by other symptoms such as fever, nausea/vomiting, stiff neck, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No exclusion is necessary for headache alone. • Nevertheless, close observation should be exercised 	Able to participate in school activities and exclusion criteria are resolved
Mouth sores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White or yellowish spots and patches in the mouth, on tongue or along the cheeks • Painful swallowing, swollen neck glands or lips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncontrollable drooling • Needs more care than personnel can provide • Unable to participate in school activities 	Able to participate in school activities and exclusion criteria are resolved
Rash	See more information on rashes below	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional symptoms present such as behavioral changes, fever, joint pain, or bruising not associated with injury, or if the rash is oozing or causes open wounds 	<p>Able to participate in school activities and exclusion criteria are resolved</p> <p>On medication (if indicated) at least for 24 hours</p>
Stomach ache / abdominal pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever • Abdominal pain • Abdominal cramps • Nausea/vomiting • Diarrhea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain is severe • Pain appears after an injury • Additional symptoms present such as such as fever, vomiting, diarrhea, etc 	Able to participate in school activities and exclusion criteria are resolved
Swollen lymph nodes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever • Common cold symptoms • Swelling at front and/or sides of neck • Swollen lymph nodes in groin or armpits • Boils or redness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional symptoms present such as difficulty breathing, swallowing, fever, etc 	<p>Able to participate in school activities and exclusion criteria are resolved</p> <p>On medications (if indicated) at least for 24 hours</p>

Vomiting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nausea• Abdominal pain• Abdominal cramps• Diarrhea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vomiting occurred more than two times in 24 hours• Vomit appears green, black or bloody.• A recent head injury occurred• Additional symptoms present such as fever, diarrhea, etc	Able to participate in school activities and exclusion criteria are resolved
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