

What to do when your child is sick

Fort Thomas Independent Schools

To help keep all our students healthy and safe, the Fort Thomas School District has prepared the following guidelines so that parents know when it's safe to send their children back to school after an illness.

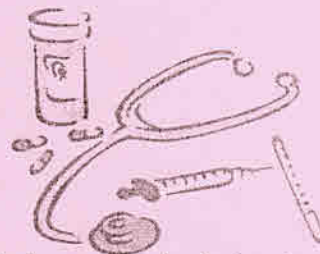
It's important to keep sick children out of school for two reasons.

The first reason: the child needs to build up strength and recover.

The second reason is to minimize the chances of others catching the illness.

If your child has a contagious illness, please notify the school. Contagious illnesses include—but are not limited to—the following:

- Chicken pox
- Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
- Hepatitis
- Impetigo
- Measles
- Mumps
- Pediculosis (head lice)
- Pertussis (whooping cough)
- Rubella
- Scabies
- Scarlet fever
- Strep throat
- Tuberculosis



If students are suspected to have a contagious infection while they are at school, the school nurse will examine them and determine if their parents need to take them home. To prevent the spread of illness among other students, sick children are required to stay home from school.

The following are guidelines that describe when it is safe for a child to return to classes:

- **Conjunctivitis (pink eye), impetigo, strep throat, scarlet fever and scabies:** A student may return to classes only after being medicated for a full 24 hours and until the child is without fever for 24 hours. A doctor's note will be required.
- **Chicken Pox:** A student can go back to school if all blisters have dried and formed scabs; this is usually about six days after the rash starts.
- **Fever:** A student with a temperature of 100° Fahrenheit or higher is not allowed to attend school. The student may return to school after being fever-free for 24 hours.
- **Mumps:** A student may return to school nine days after symptoms of the illness first appeared, and if all swelling is gone.
- **Pediculosis (head lice):** Students can return to school after treatment is completed and no live lice or nits (eggs) are seen. It is also important to note:
 - ⇒ The day after a student is sent home with lice, the student accompanied by a parent or guardian must meet with the school nurse. The school nurse will examine the student before the student can go back to the classroom.
 - ⇒ If the student is completely nit-free, then he or she can go back to classes. If nits are present, the student will be kept out of class.

Vomiting: If a child vomits two or more times within 24 hours, it might be necessary for him or her to stay home from school until it is determined that the condition is not contagious.