



Gulf Shores City Schools

Health Services

Excluding a sick child from school may decrease the spread of the disease to others. The decision to send your child home in the event he/she becomes sick at school will be made on an individual basis based on the school nurse's professional judgment.

This list serves as a guidance in managing students and is not inclusive. Children with any of the symptoms listed below should be excluded from the school setting until symptoms improve; or a health care provider has determined that the child can return to the educational setting.

| Communicable Disease or Condition | Exclusion and Readmission Criteria |
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| CONJUNCTIVITIS (Pinkeye) Redness and swelling of the outer layer of the eye and inside the eyelid. It can also cause sore and watery eyes with discharge | Keep child home until the discharge and signs of infection have cleared and/or completion of 24-hour treatment prescribed by health care provider. |
| COVID A respiratory virus that may cause fever, chills. Cough shortness of breath, fatigue, body aches, headache, and sore throat | Keep child home on days 0-5 and may return to school on day 6 with symptom improvement and no fever on day 5 or 6. |
| FEVER Elevated temperature of 100.4 or greater | Keep your child home until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication before returning to school. |
| VOMITING 2 or more episodes of vomiting in the past 24 hours. | Keep your child home until vomiting resolves (no further vomiting for 24 hours) unless health care provider indicates the vomiting is not contagious. |
| DIARRHEA Frequent, loose, water stools compared to child's normal pattern: not caused by diet or medication | Keep your child home until diarrhea resolves (no further diarrhea for 24 hours) unless health provider indicates is not contagious. |
| HAND, FOOT, AND MOUTH DISEASE Fever and tiny blisters on the cheeks and gums, inside the mouth and on the hands and feet. | Keep your child home until fever free for 24 hours and all blisters have dried |
| HEAD LICE Tiny insects that bite and cause itching of the skin. | Your child may return to school after lice treatment and free of nits (eggs) and bugs. Child must be brought to school by parent/guardian and checked by the school nurse before being admitted to class. |

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| IMPETIGO Blister like lesions which develop into pustules. May “weep” and crust | Keep your child home for 24 hours after medical treatment initiated. Lesion must be covered for school attendance. |
| RASH WITH FEVER Any new rash accompanied by fever | Contact your child’s health care provider for medical advice. May return to school after rash goes away or clearance is given by the health care provider. |
| RINGWORM A common skin infection, usually resulting in red, itching, scaly circular rash | Your child may come to school after treatment has started and area must be covered for school attendance. |
| SCABIES Intense itching and sometimes a rash | Keep your child home until 24 hours after prescribed treatment has been completed. |
| SKIN WOUNDS Any wound: abscesses, boils, draining lesions, Staph and MRSA. | Keep your child home for 24 hours. Wounds must be covered and have no visible drainage. |
| STREP THROAT Fever, red sore throat, swollen glands. | Keep your child home. May return when treated with antibiotics for 24 hours, and fever free for 24 hours. |
| OTHER Symptoms that prevent your child from active participation in school activities. | Keep your child home and follow your child’s health care providers recommendations |

Follow the directions from child’s health care provider and/or school nurse before returning to school.

References:

Alabama Department of Public Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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