

Guidelines for School Exclusion Due to Illness

If a child presents to the school clinic with any of these symptoms the parent/guardian will be notified and the child will be sent home.

Symptom/Illness	Exclusion Criteria
Appearance/Behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appears to be severely ill Is not responsive Irritable Persistently crying Having difficulty breathing Has a quickly spreading rash
Fever (temperature 100°F or greater by any method)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fever and behavior change or other signs and symptoms (e.g., sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea) Must not return until temperature is below 100°F for 24 hours without the use of <u>fever-reducing medication</u>
Conjunctivitis (pink eye)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May return after 24 hours of starting antibiotic drops (bacterial); or with a note from doctor stating “no longer contagious” (viral)
Diarrhea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diapered children whose stool is not contained in the diaper Toilet-trained children if the diarrhea is causing “accidents” Stool containing blood or mucus Diarrhea is defined by stool which is occurring more frequently and/or is less formed in consistency than usual in the child, and not associated with changes of diet
Vomiting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 or more times in the previous 24 hours, unless the vomiting is determined to be caused by a non-communicable/non-infectious condition and the child is not in danger of dehydration If child is at school, child must be sent home and free of vomiting episodes for 24 hours
Rash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With fever or behavioral changes, until a primary care provider has determined that the illness is not a communicable disease
Streptococcal pharyngitis (strep throat or other streptococcal infection)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until fever free and the child has had two doses of a course of an appropriate antibiotic 12 hours apart
Scabies, Ringworm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until after the first treatment. Treatment may occur between the end of the day and beginning of the next day—not requiring any exclusion
Varicella (chickenpox)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until all lesions have dried or crusted (usually 6 days after onset of rash) and no new lesions have showed for at least 24 hours.
Pediculosis (lice)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact school nurse for information
Rubella	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until 7 days after the rash appears
Pertussis (whooping cough)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until 5 days of appropriate antibiotic treatment (21 days if untreated)
Mumps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until 5 days after onset of parotid gland swelling
Measles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until 4 days after onset of rash
Hepatitis A virus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until 1 week after onset of illness or jaundice or as directed by the health department
Parvovirus (Fifth Disease)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until rash appears and the child no longer has a fever
Respiratory Virus Illnesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fever and behavior change or other signs and symptoms (e.g., sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea). Must not return until temperature is below 100°F for 24 hours without the use of <u>fever-reducing medication</u> May return to school once other symptoms improve.

This information is based on the latest recommendations addressing health and safety in group settings from the following organizations: American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Tennessee Department of Health.