



SIGNATURE PREPARATORY

ILLNESS POLICY

Dear Parent/Guardian,

To minimize the spread of contagious disease we ask that each morning prior to bringing your student to school you consider doing the following: Take your child's temperature, look for signs of being ill such as: being more tired than usual, sluggish, fever, chills, headache, complaints of sore throat, congestion or runny nose, new onset of cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea, chest pain, aching joints and/or muscles, loss or change in smell and taste, and any new unidentified rashes. Please do not send your student to school if they have **any of these symptoms**.

We also ask that if you are contacted to pick your child up from school for any of the listed ailments, you or a designated emergency contact pick your student up as soon as possible but **no more than 1 hour after being notified**.

- **Fever/Temperature:** Your child has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher. They may return to school **AFTER** being symptom and fever-free for at least 24 hours **without** the use of fever reducing medication such as Tylenol or Motrin.
- **Vomiting and/or Diarrhea:** Please keep your child home until they are symptom free without medication for at least 24 hours. Your child must be able to consume his/her regular diet without any problems.
- **Pink Eye:** Your child may return to school **AFTER** a full 24 hours of antibiotic or a doctor's note.
- **Strep-throat:** Your child may return to school **AFTER** antibiotic treatment has been initiated and symptom-free for 24 hours.
- **Chicken Pox:** Please keep your child home until all blisters have formed scabs. Typically, children miss 5-6 days of school for the disease to run its course. Please notify the front office if your child has been diagnosed with Chicken Pox. Vaccinated individuals may develop lesions that don't crust. They are considered contagious until no new lesions have appeared in 24 hours. Your child will need medical clearance from a licensed health care professional to return to school.
- **Lice:** Students with lice should NOT attend school until they have been treated. Before returning to class, the student along with the parent must do a lice check with the school nurse.
- **Respiratory Illnesses (COVID-19, Influenza, RSV, etc.):**

The following guidelines have been put in place based on the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations

Students with new onset of symptoms or who have been sent home from school for symptoms consistent with a respiratory illness (more than four coughs per minute, consistent coughing, a productive cough, etc.) must remain home after it has been at least 24 hours, symptoms are improving overall, and if a fever was present, it has been gone without use of a fever-reducing medication for 24 hours.



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Once people resume normal activities, they are encouraged to take additional prevention strategies for the next 5 days to curb disease spread, such as taking more steps for cleaner air, enhancing hygiene practices, wearing a well-fitting mask, keeping a distance from others, and/or getting tested for respiratory viruses.

When people get sick with a respiratory virus, the updated guidance recommends that they stay home and away from others.

As part of the guidance, CDC provides active recommendations on core prevention steps and strategies:

- **Staying up to date with vaccination** to protect people against serious illness, hospitalization, and death. This includes flu, COVID-19, and RSV if eligible.
- **Practicing good hygiene** by covering coughs and sneezes, washing or sanitizing hands often, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces.
- **Taking steps for cleaner air**, such as bringing in more fresh outside air, purifying indoor air, or gathering outdoors.

We ask that positive family members do not come onto campus while sick. This includes but is not limited to picking up and dropping off your student to/from school and any activities such as homework pick up, sports, before and after school programs.

Please fill out the online “report an absence” promptly if your child is being treated for any contagious illness.

Signature Preparatory’s goal is to keep school as normal as possible for your students, your support and compliance is an integral part of making this possible. Thank you for doing your part in preventing the spread of illness throughout our Signature Preparatory community.

Sincerely,
Signature Preparatory Health Department