

HOMER CCSD 33C HEALTH GUIDELINES

Please refer to the following guidelines for decision making when your student is ill or has a condition which may impact attendance. Our goal is to create a healthy school environment for everyone to optimize learning and prevent the spread of illnesses. *Please notify the office along with your student's teacher of any absences prior to the start of the school day.*

Please update the school nurse with any changes in your student's medical status or known allergies.

COLDS: The student with an excessive cough, runny nose, green nasal discharge, a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, and/or is too uncomfortable to function at school, should remain at home.

COUGH/SORE THROAT: If a parent would like their child to be allowed to have a cough drop during the school day, the parent must provide a supply of cough drops along with a note authorizing the school nurse to dispense the cough drops to the student. The cough drops must be stored in the nurse's office, and the student must consume the cough drop while sitting in the nurse's office.

CHICKEN POX: Inform the school. The student must stay home from school for at least five days and until all vesicles are dried and crusted over. A vaccinated student with a typical rash should remain at home until fever free and no lesions have developed within the past 24 hours.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (SUCH AS COVID-19): The District will consult with the Will County Department of Public Health and follow the recommended Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidelines.

COXSACKIE VIRUS (HAND, FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE): The student should remain home with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, lesions that are weeping, or if the student is unable to participate in school activities.

DIARRHEA: Any student experiencing diarrhea must remain at home for **24 hours** after the diarrhea has ceased.

EAR INFECTIONS: The student should be evaluated by a physician with ear pain or discharge from the ear canal. Early treatment can prevent possible hearing complications.

EYE INFECTIONS: Pink eye (conjunctivitis) must be evaluated by a licensed healthcare provider. The student should stay at home if unable to avoid touching/itching the eyes or if one or both eyes have a purulent discharge.

FEVER: The student must remain at home with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher. The student may return to school after being fever free for **24 hours** and **without the use of fever-reducing medications**.

FIFTH DISEASE: Fifth Disease is a contagious viral rash characterized by bright red cheeks which appear to have been slapped. A licensed healthcare provider's note stating the student is not contagious should be presented upon returning to school when requested by the school nurse. **Notify the nurse and anyone who might be pregnant who had contact with the student before the rash appeared.**

HEAD LICE: If live lice are found at school, the parent will be notified. The student will be allowed to remain at school until the end of the school day, then must begin appropriate treatment at home; the student may return to class after treatment at home has begun. Prior to returning to class, the nurse will check the student. The nurse will not perform routine head checks in the classroom.

HOSPITALIZATIONS: Provide the discharge summary or a medical note prior to returning to school.

INJURIES/FRACTURES/SURGERY/STITCHES/STAPLES:
Notify the school nurse. A medical note is required and should include clearance to return to physical education.*

The school nurse will determine appropriate modifications of physical activity and mode of travel throughout the building. If a parent/guardian would like their child to continue to ride the school bus while using crutches, a licensed healthcare provider's note must be provided stating the student can use crutches on the school bus; the parent/guardian will be responsible for teaching the student how to safely and properly use the crutches on stairs, as this is necessary for riding the bus. Also, the parent/guardian must make arrangements to assist the student with entering and exiting the school bus in order to assist with a backpack and/or other items. The bus driver will not be able to assist since they are not allowed to exit the bus. Parent is responsible for providing assistive devices such as a wheelchair or scooter for use during the school day. **For injuries not requiring medical attention, a parent note is acceptable for a student's excusal from physical education for up to two days. Students are not allowed to participate in PE/recess while wearing a splint, wrap, or medical device without a medical note.**

***For information on returning to Homer 33C Athletics after an injury, please refer to the District's athletic handbook.**

IMPETIGO: This is a contagious skin infection which usually begins around the nose and mouth. It is characterized by sores covered with yellow or brown crust. The student must remain at home and may return 24 hours after treatment has begun.

INFLUENZA: The student must remain at home with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher. The student may return to school when feeling better and fever free for 24 hours. An annual influenza virus vaccine is recommended for everyone six months of age and older.

MEDICATIONS: All medications, including over-the counter (OTC) medicines, must have the appropriate district form filled out and signed by the ordering provider and parent/guardian. Medications must be transported by the parent/guardian and kept in their original containers with prescription label attached.

RASHES: The student is to remain at home with any undiagnosed skin rash. A licensed healthcare provider's note stating that the student is not contagious should be presented upon return to school when requested by the school nurse.

SCHOOL INJURIES: The school nurse will assess the injury and administer first aid. No notification is necessary for students with minor injuries and no symptoms. Other injuries will be treated and, depending upon the nature of the injury, parents may be notified by phone, email, or a note sent home.

STREP THROAT: The student may return to school **24 hours after antibiotics are started** as long as the student has been fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and the student is comfortable to participate in class.

VOMITING: The student must remain at home **24 hours** after the vomiting has ceased, if the vomiting is determined to be illness related.

Source:

[Communicable Disease School Nurse Guidance](#)