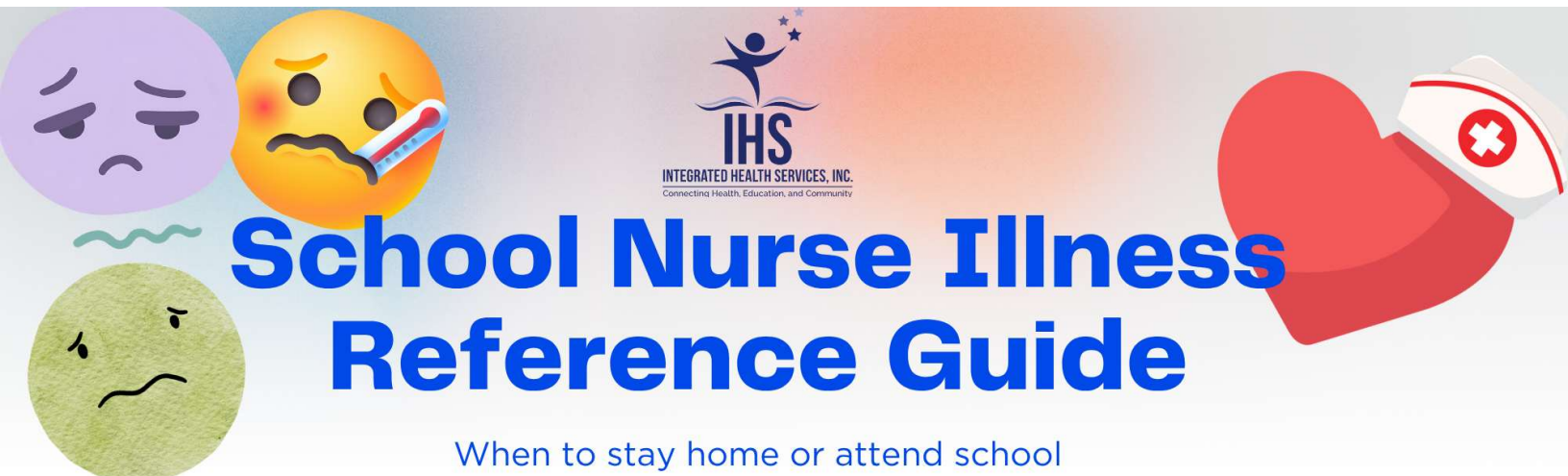




This guide provides essential information for school nurses to determine when students should remain at home due to illness or when they are well enough to attend school. It covers various common illnesses and specific symptoms, with clear guidelines for each.

Important Attention Note: Students sent home with a temperature of 100.4°F or higher, vomiting, or diarrhea must remain home until they have been symptom-free for 24 hours *without the use of fever-reducing or anti-emetic medication*.

Illness Guidelines

Illness/Symptom	Action - Stay Home Until:	Notes
Chicken Pox	Spots are dried and crusted (approx. 5-6 days)	
Cold (Mild Symptoms)	Fever-free for 24 hours	School is permitted if symptoms are mild and no fever.
Cough	Persistent and disruptive	If mild and not disruptive, school is generally okay.

COVID-19	Fever-free for 24 hours (without medication) and symptoms improving	
Diarrhea	24 hours after the last episode	See Important Attention Note.
Fever	100.4°F or higher; fever-free for 24 hours (without medication)	See Important Attention Note.
Fifth Disease	Rash appears	Generally not contagious once the rash appears.
Flu/Influenza	Fever-free for 24 hours (without medication) and symptoms improving	
Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease	Fever-free for 24 hours (without medication), no open blisters, no uncontrolled drooling	
Head Lice	Treated with pediculicidal agent (e.g., Nix)	Students can return once treatment is completed.
Impetigo	24 hours after starting treatment and sores are covered at school	

Ringworm	Area is treated and covered	School is permitted with proper treatment and covering.
Strep Throat	24 hours after starting antibiotics and temperature less than 100.4°F	
Vomiting	24 hours after the last episode	See Important Attention Note.

This guide is intended for use by school nurses as a professional medical reference. Always use clinical judgment in conjunction with these guidelines. When in doubt, it is best to err on the side of caution to prevent the spread of illness within the school community.