**When to Keep Your Child at Home**

**There are three reasons to keep your sick children at home:**

1. Your child does not feel well enough to participate in usual activities. Signs would include your child is extremely tired, has unexplained irritability and/or persistent crying.
2. The child requires more care than the staff is able to provide without affecting the health and safety of the other children.
3. The illness is on the list of symptoms or illnesses for which exclusion is recommended.

**Children with the following symptoms or illnesses should be excluded from school:**

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| **SYMPTOMS** | **CHILD MUST BE AT HOME?** |
| **Diarrhea**  Frequent, loose, or watery stools compared to child's normal pattern; not caused by diet or medication | **Yes-** if child looks or acts ill; if child has diarrhea with fever and behavior change; diarrhea with vomiting; diarrhea not contained in diaper or toilet |
| **Fever**  With behavior changes or illness | **Yes-** Fever accompanied by behavior changes, rash, sore throat or vomiting, etc. |
| **Flu Symptoms**  Fever over 100℉ with a cough or sore throat.  Fatigue, body aches, vomiting, diarrhea | **Yes-** for at least 24 hours after fever has resolved; without the use of fever reducing medications |
| **Coughing**  Severe, uncontrolled coughing or wheezing, rapid or difficulty breathing | **Yes-** Medical attention necessary |
| **Mild respiratory or cold symptoms**  Stuffy nose with clear drainage, sneezing, mild cough | **No-** May attend if able to participate in  activities |
| **Rash- with fever** | **Yes-** Seek medical advice. Rash that spreads quickly, has open/weeping wounds or is not resolving should be evaluated. |
| **Vomiting**  Two or more episodes of vomiting in past 24 hours | **Yes-** Until vomiting resolves or a health care provider determines it is not contagious. Observe for other signs of illness and dehydration |

**\*Information provided by The Children's Hospital of Colorado/School Health Program 2009**

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| **ILLNESS** | **CHILD MUST BE AT HOME?** |
| **CHICKEN POX (VARICELLA)** | **YES-** Until blisters have crusted over (usually 6 days). If blister occurs after vaccination, refer to health department guidelines |
| **PINK EYE (CONJUNCTIVITIS)**  Pink color of eye ***and*** thick yellow or green discharge | **YES-** Until 24 hours after treatment  If health provider decides to not treat child, a note is needed to return to school |
| **CROUP (LARYNGOTRACHEOBRONCHITIS)** | Seek medical advice |
| **FIFTH'S DISEASE** | **No-** Child is no longer contagious after rash appears |
| **COXSACKIE VIRUS (HAND FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE** | **No-** May attend if child is able to participate in usual activities. If child has mouth sores and is drooling they need to stay home |
| **HEADLICE OR SCABIES** | May return after treatment starts |
| **HEPATITIS A** | **Yes-** until 1 week after onset of illness or jaundice and when able to participate in usual activities |
| **HERPES** | **Yes-** If the area is oozing and cannot be covered such as mouth sores |
| **IMPETIGO** | **Yes-** 24 hours after treatment starts they can return |
| **RINGWORM** | May return after treatment starts. keep area covered for the first 48 hrs of treatment |
| **ROSEOLA** | **Yes-** seek medical advice |
| **RSV** | **Yes-** seek medical advice. Once a child in the group has been infected, spread of illness is rapid |
| **STREP THROAT** | **Yes-** for 24 hours after treatment has started and the child is able to participate in usual activities |
| **VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES** | **Yes-** until determined not infectious by health care provider |
| **YEAST INFECTIONS** | **No-** may attend if able to participate in school activities. Follow good hand washing and hygiene practices |

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