



When to Keep Your Child Home from School

Illness	What to do?
Chickenpox	Keep child home until they have no new sores for 24 hours AND all sores are dried and crusted. **During an outbreak of chickenpox, children who are <u>NOT</u> vaccinated for chickenpox (Varicella) and have been in close contact with someone sick with the infection will not be allowed at school for 21 days after they were last exposed to chickenpox, even if they are not sick.
Diarrhea that cannot be controlled and/or with a fever.	Keep child at home.
Fever with temperature 100° or higher and not feeling well enough to participate in class.	Keep child home until fever-free for 24 hours <u>without</u> using fever-reducing medicine such as Motrin or Tylenol.
Flu-like symptoms with fever, chills, sore throat, runny nose, muscle aches, tiredness; may also have vomiting and diarrhea.	Keep child home until symptoms are gone.
Head lice	If lice are first found at school, child may stay until end of the day but may not return until treated and all live lice are gone.
Impetigo	Keep child home until 24 hours after antibiotics have been started.
MRSA	Keep child home if sore is draining and cannot be covered with a clean, dry bandage. Keep child home if they cannot keep from picking at sore.
Rash	Keep child home until seen by a doctor and treated if needed. The school may request a doctor's note to return to school.
Strep throat	Keep child home until 24 hours after antibiotics have been started.
Pink eye with discharge	Keep child home until seen by a doctor and 24 hours after first dose of medicine, if prescribed.
Ringworm	If ringworm is first found at school, child may stay until end of the day if it can be covered. Child may not return until treatment has been started. Area must remain covered until completely healed.
Scabies	Child must stay home until after treatment is started.
Vomiting 2 or more times within 24 hours	Keep child home until able to tolerate regular diet.

Reference: American Academy of Pediatrics (2009) Managing Infectious Disease in Child Care and Schools, second edition