

Each day many parents are faced with a decision. Should they keep their sick children at home or send them off to school? Often the way a child looks and acts can make the decision an obvious one. The following guidelines should be considered when making the decision:

- **Fever:** The child should remain at home with a fever greater than 100 degrees. The child can return to school after he/she has been fever free for at least 24 hours (without fever reducing medicine such as Tylenol or Motrin).

For example: If your child wakes up on Monday morning with a fever above 100 degrees they should not return to school until at least Wednesday. They must be fever free during this 24 hour period without fever reducing medication. (See Above).

- **Diarrhea/Vomiting:** A child with diarrhea and/or vomiting should stay home and return to school only after being symptom free for 24 hours and have held down 2 solid meals.
- **Conjunctivitis:** Following a diagnosis of conjunctivitis, the child may return to school after treatment has started.
- **Rashes:** Common infectious diseases with rashes are most contagious in the early stages. A child with a suspicious rash should return to school only after a healthcare provider has made a diagnosis and authorized the child's return to school.
- **Colds:** Consider keeping your child at home if he/she is experiencing discomfort from cold symptoms, such as nasal congestion and cough. A continuous green discharge from the nose may be a sign of infection. Consider having the child seen by your healthcare provider.

A sick child cannot learn effectively and is unable to participate in classes in a meaningful way. Keeping a sick child home prevents the spread of illness in the school community and allows the child opportunity to rest and recover.