

When to keep your child home

Temperature: Anyone with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher must stay home until 24 hours has passed without a temperature of 100 degrees or higher. Use of any fever lowering medicine such as Tylenol or Motrin does not apply toward the 24-hour normal temperature policy. A child with a temperature lower than 100 degrees who has other symptoms of illness should remain home.

Vomiting: A child who vomits must stay home until 24 hours has passed without any further vomiting. Please know your child will tell us all about how he threw-up and how many times he did so!

Diarrhea: A child who has diarrhea for any reason (illness, reaction to an antibiotic, or from eating food that acts as a laxative) must stay home until 24 hours has passed without any further episodes of diarrhea. Please do not put your child in the embarrassing situation of having an accident at school.

Laxatives: A child who has been given a laxative of any kind must remain home until the laxative has taken effect. This is to prevent an embarrassing accident because they could not get to the bathroom in time or someone else was already in the bathroom.

Pink eye: A child with pink eye may return to school 24 hours after beginning medication if the eye is no longer oozing or crusty.

Strep throat: Anyone diagnosed with strep throat must remain home until they have taken the antibiotic for at least 48 hours.

Cough: A child with a cough that is severe (non-stop) or productive (produces mucus) must stay home until the cough has resolved or is no longer productive. Children who are constantly coughing do not enjoy their day at preschool and expose the other children to germs.

Stuffy noses: A child with a stuffy or runny nose that needs to be wiped often should remain at home until his or her nose clears up.

Flu symptoms: Anyone with flu symptoms (combination of fever, headache, aches, and pains, fatigue chest discomfort, stuffy nose and/or sore throat) must remain home until symptoms have been resolved for 24 hours.

COVID-19: Return to school when fever/vomit free without medication for at least 24 hours AND symptoms are improving and continue to improve for at least 24 hours (total 48 hours).

Head lice: Anyone with head lice may not return to school until thoroughly treated and documentation of treatment is brought to school.

Rash: An unidentified rash must be diagnosed and treated if medically indicated. A note from the pediatrician stating the rash is not contagious is required to readmit the child.

Sending home sick children

Children who become sick while at preschool will be sent home if one or more of the following conditions are present:

- The child does not feel well enough to participate comfortably in activities.
- The child needs more attention than the teachers can provide while still caring for the other children in the class.
- The child continues to cry and does not want to be comforted by the teachers.
- The child shows symptoms that the illness could be contagious.

You will be called to pick up your child if he or she becomes sick while at school. If you are unable to arrive at the preschool within 30 minutes of receiving our call, someone on your emergency list will be called. The 24-hour period begins when the parent signs the child out for the day. If a child is sent home from school with a fever, vomiting, diarrhea etc., they may not return to school the next morning. They must be free of symptoms for at least 24 hours before returning to school. If your child returns to school prior to 24 hours of being illness-free (Covid: 48 hours), they will be sent home. This policy is necessary to prevent the spread of illness to other children and staff as well as the protection of the ill child.