



## Sick Day Guidelines: When Your Child Must Stay Home

*If your child is staying home from school due to illness or personal reason, we require that you call our 24-hr attendance line by 8:00 AM that day. Please call the main number (973-300-3800) and you will be prompted to dial option 2 for the absentee line. Leave your message there.*

**The following is a list of common childhood illnesses that exclude a student from attending school:**

- **Fever** - Students are sent home with 100°F. Prior to returning to school, student must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of Tylenol/Advil.
- **Pink eye (conjunctivitis)** - Students are sent home with "pink eye". Students may return after treatment once eyes are clear (usually after treatment with medicated eye drops for at least 24 hours)
- **Diarrhea or vomiting** - Students who vomit or have diarrhea in school are sent home. Students may return to school when symptom-free for 24 hours. *If symptoms continue for more than a few days or if the child is listless/sluggish, see your doctor.*
- **Common Cold** - Student are sent home when symptoms are severe (i.e. severe cough, excessive nasal flow, tight congestion, etc.) Students may return to school when symptoms are minor.
- **Strep throat** - Antibiotics must begin 24 hours along with relief of symptoms prior to returning to school. A sore throat accompanying a stomach ache could indicate strep. Watch for fever, swollen neck glands, diarrhea and/or pain.
- **Fifth's disease** - Students who exhibit a rash indicative of 5th disease are not contagious. As a precaution, the school nurse will instruct any pregnant staff to consults with their doctor related to possible exposure.
- **Skin infections-Staph, Impetigo, Ringworm, and Scabies** - Students with suspicious skin rashes are sent home for doctor evaluation. Students may return to school with a doctor's note once evaluated and treated.
- **Poison Ivy** - Students with poison ivy are not excluded from school. If it covers a large area of body, the nurse will encourage a doctor evaluation/treatment.
- **Chicken pox** - Students may return to school when crusts are dry and child is fever free, usually 7-9 days.
- **Pediculosis (Head Lice)** - Students with head lice will be sent home. A student may return to school when: (1) there are no active lice in the hair, (2) proof of treatment has been provided, and (3) all dead/live lice are removed from the hair. The student must be checked by the school nurse before returning to the classroom. Emphasis will be placed on confidentiality.

***A RETURN-TO-SCHOOL CLEARANCE NOTE FROM YOUR DOCTOR IS REQUIRED FOR ANY CONTAGIOUS DISEASE, INCLUDING PINK EYE AND RASHES.***