



**CONVERSE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #2
ILLNESS PROTOCOL – HOW SICK IS TOO SICK?
WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME FROM SCHOOL**

There are three main reasons to keep sick children at home:

1. The child doesn't feel well enough to take part in normal activities, (such as: overly tired, fussy or won't stop crying).
2. The child needs more care than teachers and staff can give, and still care for the other children.
3. The illness is on this list and staying home is recommended.

And remember, the best way to prevent the spread of infection is through good hand washing.

Children with the following symptoms or illness should be kept home (excluded) from school:

SYMPTOMS	CHILD MUST BE AT HOME?
DIARRHEA Frequent, loose or watery stools compared to child's normal ones that are not caused by food or medicine	Yes - if child looks or acts sick; if child has diarrhea with vomiting; if child has diarrhea that overflows the diaper or the toilet
FEVER A fever of 100° F or above	Yes
"FLU-LIKE" SYMPTOMS Fever over 100° F with a cough or sore throat; other flu symptoms can include tiredness, body aches, vomiting & diarrhea	Yes - for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone, without the use of medicine that reduces the fever
COUGHING <u>Note:</u> Children with asthma may go to school with a written healthcare plan and the school is allowed to give them medicine and treatment with a signed healthcare provider's order	Yes - if severe, uncontrolled coughing or wheezing, rapid or difficulty breathing and medical attention is necessary
MILD RESPIRATORY OR COLD SYMPTOMS Stuffy nose with clear drainage, sneezing, mild cough	No - may attend if able to take part in school activities <i>Keep home if symptoms are severe. This includes fever and the child is not acting normally and/or has trouble breathing</i>
RASH <u>Note:</u> Body rash without fever or behavior changes usually does not need to stay home from school, or nursing judgement	Yes - with a fever, call the healthcare provider; Any rash that spreads quickly, has open, weeping wounds and/or is not healing should be evaluated
VOMITING Not related to activity, coughing, self-induced	Yes - until vomiting stops or a healthcare provider says it is not contagious. If the child has a recent head injury watch for other signs of illness and for dehydration

CCSD#2 ILLNESS PROTOCOL

ILLNESS	CHILD MUST BE AT HOME?
CHICKEN POX	Yes - until blisters have dried and crusted (usually 6 days)
CONJUNCTIVITIS (PINK EYE) Pink color of eye and thick yellow/green discharge	No (bacterial or viral) - children don't need to stay home unless the child has a fever or behavioral changes. Call the healthcare provider for diagnosis and possible treatment
FIFTH'S DISEASE	No - child is no longer contagious once rash appears
HAND FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (Coxsackie virus)	No - unless the child has mouth sores, is drooling and isn't able to take part in usual activities
HEAD LICE	Yes - from end of the school day until after first treatment
HEPATITIS A	Yes - until 1 week after the start of the illness and when able to take part in usual activities
HERPES	No, unless - the child has open sores that cannot be covered or is drooling uncontrollably
IMPETIGO	Yes - for 24 hours after starting antibiotics
RINGWORM	Yes - from end of school until after starting treatment, keep area covered for the first 2 days
ROSEOLA	Yes - if the child has a fever and rash, call the healthcare provider
SCABIES	Yes - for 24 hours after the first treatment
STREP THROAT	Yes - for 24 hours after starting antibiotics and the child is able to take part in usual activities
VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES Measles, Mumps, Rubella (German Measles), Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	Yes - until the healthcare provider says the child is no longer contagious Note: Per Wyoming state guidelines all vaccine exempt students may be excluded during an active disease outbreak at school

References:

- American Academy of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association, National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education. 2011. Caring for our children: National health and safety performance standards; Guidelines for early care and education programs, 3rd edition, Elk Grove Village, IL.
- American Academy of Pediatrics, Managing Infectious Disease in Child Care and Schools, 3rd Edition, Elk Grove village, IL 2013.
- Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program, Infectious Disease in Child Care Settings: Guidelines for Schools and Child Care Providers, Denver, CO, October 2013.
- Children's Hospital Colorado Illness Policy, November 2013.