






QUICK GUIDE: WHEN TO KEEP YOUR STUDENT AT HOME

More detailed guidance follows this page.

SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS	THE STUDENT MAY RETURN AFTER...
 Fever: temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or greater	*The list below tells the shortest time to stay home. A student may need to stay home longer for some illnesses. *Fever-free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine AND per guidance for primary COVID-19 symptoms.
 New cough illness OR New difficulty breathing	* Symptoms improving for 24 hours (no cough or cough is well-controlled) AND per guidance for primary COVID-19 symptoms. If diagnosed with pertussis (whooping cough), the student must take 5 days of prescribed antibiotics before returning.
 Headache with stiff neck or with fever	*Symptom-free OR with orders from doctor to school nurse. Follow fever instructions if fever is present.
 Diarrhea: 3 loose or watery stools in a day OR not able to control bowel movements	*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
 Vomiting: one or more episode that is unexplained	*Symptom-free for 48 hours OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Skin rash or open sores	*Symptom free , which means rash is gone OR sores are dry or can be completely covered by a bandage OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Red eyes with eye discharge: yellow or brown drainage from the eyes	*Symptom-free , which means redness and discharge are gone OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Jaundice: new yellow color in eyes or skin	*After the school has orders from doctor or local public health authority to school nurse.
Acting differently without a reason: unusually sleepy, grumpy, or confused.	*Symptom-free , which means return to normal behavior OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Major health event , like an illness lasting 2 or more weeks OR a hospital stay, OR health condition requires more care than school staff can safely provide.	*After the school has orders from doctor to school nurse AND after measures are in place for the student's safety. Please work with school staff to address special health-care needs so the student may attend safely.

COMMON SYMPTOMS/ ILLNESSES and WHEN TO KEEP YOUR STUDENT AT HOME

COUGH

If your student has:

- a persistent, chronic cough that has not yet been diagnosed, (as might happen with new asthma and allergies), they should stay home until diagnosed and cleared by a healthcare provider.
- a recent (non-chronic) illness that causes coughing (such as with a common cold), they should stay home until there is no cough or until the cough is well-controlled.
- a cough that is frequent or severe enough to interfere with class participation, they should stay home until there is no cough or until the cough is well-controlled.
- Covid-19, they must stay home for 5 days.
- Pertussis (whooping cough), they must stay home until completion of a 5-day course of prescribed antibiotics or until cleared by Benton County Health Department.

COVID-19

SYMPTOMS can include: FEVER, CHILLS, COUGH, SHORTNESS of BREATH, FATIGUE, BODY ACHES, HEADACHE, SORE THROAT, NASAL CONGESTION, NAUSEA or VOMITING, DIARRHEA, and NEW LOSS of TASTE or SMELL*

If your student has two or more symptoms of Covid-19, please seek testing:

- If the test is negative, see symptom-specific guidance in this document.
- If the test is positive, please notify the school office and have your student stay home for five full days after symptoms started.

*Loss of taste or smell is not as common with Omicron variant

DIARRHEA

If your student:

- has had three or more watery stools in 24 hours, or...
- has had a sudden onset of loose stools, or...
- is unable to control bowels when previously able...

...They can return to school 48 hours after diarrhea has resolved OR after they've been cleared by a healthcare provider.

EYE REDNESS AND DRAINAGE

If your student has:

- unexplained redness of one or both eyes, or...
- non-clear drainage, or...
- eye irritation accompanied by vision changes, or...
- pain, redness, swelling or excessive tear production that prevents active participation in school activities...

They can return after:

- Symptoms have resolved, or
- They've been seen by a healthcare provider

FEVER

If your student has a fever of 100.4 or greater, they should stay home until they've been fever-free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine.

HEADACHE with STIFF NECK and/or FEVER

See fever guidelines. This combination of symptoms can indicate a serious condition. Medical attention strongly recommended.

INFLUENZA

SYMPTOMS can include: FEVER, CHILLS, COUGH, SHORTNESS of BREATH, FATIGUE, BODY ACHES, HEADACHE, SORE THROAT, NASAL CONGESTION, NAUSEA or VOMITING, and DIARRHEA.

Note that these symptoms are very similar to those of Covid-19. If your student has two or more of these symptoms during flu season, please seek testing for Covid-19 and the flu.

- If your child has Covid-19, please follow appropriate Covid-19 guidance.
- If your child tests positive for influenza, please follow the symptom-specific guidance in this document.

LICE

If your student has active, crawling lice, they should be treated before returning to school. Treatment typically kills adults, but may not kill all eggs (nits). A child does not have to be "nit-free" in order to come to school, but re-treatment might be necessary if surviving nits hatch to adults. Frequent checking and combing is recommended.

SKIN RASH or SORES

If your student has:

- new rash not previously diagnosed by a healthcare provider, or...
- a rash that is increasing in size, or...
- new sores or wounds that are developing day-to-day, or...
- a rash, wound, or sore that is draining and cannot be completely covered with a bandage...

They can return after:

- The rash is resolved, or...
- They've been seen and cleared by a healthcare provider, or...
- The sores are completely dry, or...
- The sores and wounds can be completely covered with a bandage

STREP THROAT

SYMPTOMS can include: SEVERE SORE THROAT, PAINFUL SWALLOWING, FEVER, SWOLLEN TONSILS, SWOLLEN LYMPH NODES, and NAUSEA/VOMITING **.

If you think your student has strep throat, they should seek testing:

- If negative, follow the symptom-specific guidance from this document.
- If positive, they should stay home until they no longer have a fever AND they've been taking antibiotics for at least 12 hours.

**Strep throat plus a rash indicates Scarlet Fever.

VOMITING

If your student has had one episode of unexplained vomiting, they can return 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting OR after they've been cleared by a healthcare provider.