

HPCA Safe & Healthy Protocols

Deciding when to keep a sick child home from school is not always easy. But when a child is truly sick, it is necessary for the child to stay home to get well and to prevent spreading illness to others.

Students should not be at school if they have any of the following conditions:

- **Communicable Diseases** (covid, e-coli, MRSA, etc.) - the school will follow the directives of the physician's office and/or local health department.
- **Fever at or above 100 degrees** – Student should be fever free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours before returning to school.
- **Vomiting** – Student should stay home until no vomiting has occurred for 24 hours.
- **Diarrhea** – Student should stay home until no diarrhea has occurred for 24 hours.
- **Strep Throat** – Student may return to school 24 hours after treatment with a prescription antibiotic begins and the student has been fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medications.
- **Pink Eye** – Generally, student may return to school 24 hours after treatment with a prescription antibiotic ointment or eye drop. However, please consult your child's physician because cases vary in type and severity.
- **Undiagnosed Rash** – Especially if accompanied by fever, discomfort and/or behavior change.
- **Head Lice** – Student may return to school after being treated with a lice treatment product, if no live lice are present. Parent/guardian must provide proof of purchase of a lice treatment product.
- **Nasal Discharge** that is thick, profuse or yellow/green.
- **Cough** that is persistent enough to limit physical activity.

If a student goes home sick from school with (but not limited to) the above symptoms, they will need to stay home for a full 24 hours before returning to campus.

If you have questions regarding when your child may return to school, please email our school nurse team. Please take all necessary precautions with your child, as it is our responsibility to keep our students, faculty, and staff healthy while on our campus!

When Can My Child Return to School?

- The chart in the student handbook provides information to help you determine when your child can safely return to school after an illness.
- The chart is not all inclusive.
- The chart provides general recommendations.
- The chart does not take the place of consulting your child's medical provider