

Parents: Please use this information as **guidelines** only for when your child is ill. If you have any questions, contact the school or the nurse.

SCHOOL POLICIES ON COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

- I. **Chickenpox (Varicella)**
 - A. Exclude from school until all lesions are dry and crusted, approximately 7 days, including weekends.
- II. **Conjunctivitis (Pinkeye)**
 - A. May return to school with a physician's written note:
 - **Bacterial**- exclude from school until 24 hours of antibiotic treatment completed
 - **Viral**- exclude from school until discharge ceases
- III. **Fever**
 - A. If your child's temperature is 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, He/she should remain home until without fever for 24 hours.
- IV. **Fifth Disease**
 - A. Exclude from school only if child has a fever or is uncomfortable. The child is not communicable after the rash appears.
 - B. Pregnant family members should notify their physician if exposed due to a very small risk of fetal loss, particularly in first half of pregnancy.
 - C. Recommend good handwashing after contact with any secretions.
- V. **Impetigo**- blister-like lesions which later develop into crusted pus- like sores. Usually found around the nose and mouth.
 - A. Exclude from school until 24 hours of antibiotic treatment and there is no longer a discharge.
- VI. **Influenza (Flu)**- abrupt onset of fever, chills, headache, and sore muscles. May also have runny nose, sore throat, and cough.
 - A. Exclude from school while child has a fever or does not feel well.
- VII. **Lice**
 - A. Exclude from school until treated; recommend a non-pesticide product. Must be nit free (no eggs found) upon return.
 - B. Must be checked and cleared for return to school by the nurse. Parent must bring child into clinic for check and not allowed to ride the bus till cleared.
- VIII. **Measles-German Measles-Mumps**
 - A. Readmission to school with a physician's examination and written permission slip signed by the physician:
 - **Measles**- exclude from school for at least 4 days following onset of rash.
 - **German Measles**- exclude from school 7 days following onset of rash.
 - **Mumps**- exclude from school for 9 days following onset of swelling
- IX. **Meningitis**
 - A. Readmission to school with physician's examination, treatment, and written permission slip signed by the physician:
 - **Bacterial Meningitis**- exclude from school until adequately

treated by a physician, minimally 24 hours of antibiotics. Must be under physician's care.

- **Viral Meningitis**- exclude from school while has fever. Must be under physician's care. Strict handwashing after toileting required since child may excrete virus in stool for 1-2 months.

X. MRSA- Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus

- A. Unless directed by a physician, students with MRSA infections should not be excluded from school.
- B. Exclusion from school and sports activities should be reserved for those with wound drainage that cannot be covered and secured with a clean, dry bandage. If the bandage becomes wet or soiled, it must be changed as soon as possible with the edges of the bandage taped and wrapped with gauze or ACE wrap.
- C. Students and athletes must be under a physician's care.

XI. Rash

- A. Skin rashes of unknown origin should be evaluated by a physician before the child returns to school.

XII. Ringworm- flat, ring-like rash on skin. Scalp ringworm has scaly patches of temporary baldness.

- A. Exclude from school until 24 hours of appropriate antifungal treatment completed. Treatment for scalp ringworm requires a prescription antifungal medication. Exclude from contact sports until lesions are gone. For scalp ringworm, do not share hair items. A return-to-school slip form the physician is required for scalp ringworm.

XIII. Scabies

- A. Exclude from school until treated with proper medication- requires a prescription medication. A return-to-school slip from the physician is required. It is recommended that all family members be treated at the same time as the student.

XIV. Scarlet Fever/Strep Throat

- A. Exclude from school until 24 hours of antibiotic therapy completed and until without fever or vomiting for 24 hours.
- B. Child may return to school after the school receives a note or phone call from physician.

XV. Shingles (Herpes Zoster)

- A. Exclusion from school not required as long as all lesions are covered by clothing or a dressing until lesions have crusted.
- B. Good handwashing encouraged.

XVI. Vomiting and Diarrhea (Intestinal Viral Infections)

- A. Exclude from school until without vomiting, diarrhea, or fever for a full 24 hours.