

Tips for Parents

Many parents ask, “When is my child sick enough to stay home from school?”

This is not always an easy question to answer! We hope that these tips can help.

A child who is sick will not be able to perform well in school and is likely to spread the illness to other children and staff. We suggest making a plan for childcare ahead of time so you will not be caught without a comforting place for your child to stay if he/she is ill.

Our school policy states that you should not send your child to school if he/she has:

- Fever in the past 24 hours
- Vomiting in the past 24 hours
- Diarrhea in the past 24 hours
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Strep Throat (must have been taking an antibiotic for at least 24 hours before returning to school.)
- Bad cold, with a *very runny nose* or *bad cough*, especially if it has kept the child awake at night.
- Head lice - until your child has been treated according to the nurse or doctor’s instructions.
- Conjunctivitis - “pink eye” - (must have been taking an antibiotic for 24 hours before returning to school.)

If your child becomes ill at school and the teacher or school nurse feel the child is too sick to benefit from school or is contagious to other children, you will be called to come and take him/her home from school. It is essential that the school office have a current phone number where you can be contacted during the day *and* an emergency number in the event you cannot be reached. Please be sure that arrangements can be made to transport your child home from school and that childcare is available in case of illness. If your daytime or emergency phone number changes during the year, please notify the school office immediately.

It is *imperative* that you contact the School Nurse if your child is diagnosed with a communicable disease (i.e. strep or conjunctivitis) in order to prevent an outbreak in our school.

Please call my office at 914-592-7575 x108 if you have any questions or concerns.



Julie Slattery, RN
School Nurse

No medication (including O-T-C's) can be administered without a Doctor's note according to NYS law.

I have a *limited* supply of cough drops. Please send them in with your child if necessary.