



Sick Day Guidelines: Making the Right Call When Your Child Is Sick

Should I keep my child home or send him or her to school?

The following are guidelines for deciding if your child should **stay home**.

Call your doctor if your child has these signs:

- Has a fever of 101.0 degrees or higher
- Has been **vomiting** or has **diarrhea**
- Has symptoms that keep your child from participating in school, such as:
 - Cough that he or she cannot control, sneezing often
 - Headache, body aches, or earache
 - Sore Throat – a little sore throat is ok for school, but a bad sore throat could be **strep throat**, even if there is no fever. Other signs of strep throat in children are a headache and stomach upset, or rash. A special test is needed to know if it is strep throat.
- **In general, keep your child home if he is coughing or sneezing often because this spreads the sickness to others.**

24 Hour Rule:

- **FEVER:** Keep your child home until his or her **FEVER has been gone WITHOUT medicine for 24 hrs**. Returning to school too soon may slow recovery and make others sick.
- **VOMITING OR DIARRHEA:** Keep your child home for 24 hours after the **LAST** time he or she **vomited or had diarrhea**.
- **ANITBIOTICS:** Keep your child home until 24 hours **after the FIRST dose of antibiotics** for anything like ear infection or strep throat.

We often have many children and adults with colds coming to school, and each one is passing their sickness to others. Please help us keep our school family healthy by keeping your child home when sick.

For more information, or if you have questions, please contact the School Nurses:

Donna Cushman - x1771
dcushman@dimanregional.org

Tracy Cusick, RN - X1770
tcusick@dimanregional.org