



### **Is Your Child Too Sick For School?**

It is difficult to make a decision about sending your child to school when they are not feeling well. When your child has only minor symptoms you may not be able to tell if they will get better or worse during the day. You should keep your child home if they might spread a contagious disease or if they are too sick to get through the school day. Here are some guidelines to help you decide when your child is too sick for school.

**FEVER:** A child with a fever of 100.0 should stay home and not return until there is no fever for 24 hours. If you treat a child with fever and send them to school it can return and they still may be contagious.

**DIARRHEA/VOMITING:** A child with more than one event of vomiting or diarrhea should stay at home and not return until there has been no vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours.

**SORE THROAT:** A child with a sore throat and fever should be kept home and evaluated by a doctor. A child treated for strep should be on antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school.

**COUGH:** If a cough is worse than you would expect with a normal cold and accompanied by wheezing or fever or associated with difficulty in breathing then your child should be evaluated by a doctor.

**PINKEYE:** Pinkeye is very contagious. A child with pinkeye will usually exhibit redness of the eye, drainage, itching and /or crusting of the eye upon awakening. Pinkeye should be treated with antibiotic drops for a full 24 hours before returning to school.

**IMPETIGO/RINGWORM:** A child should stay home until they have been on treatment for 24 hours. Lesions must be covered while at school.

**LICE:** A child should be free from any live lice before returning to school. You should continue head checks and combing for 7-10 days to ensure all nits have been removed to avoid re-infestation.

If you are in doubt about sending your child to school, please contact your doctor. It is important to not expose other children and staff needlessly.