

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS ILL

ALWAYS NOTIFY STAFF IF YOUR CHILD HAS HAD AN ILLNESS OR YOU HAVE CONCERNS THAT HE/SHE MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO A COMMUNICABLE DISEASE.

Mid-Prairie staff will make every effort to caringly accommodate your child if he/she becomes ill during class time until parents are able to take their child home or to a doctor.

The following symptoms are to be considered when deciding if your child is too ill to be at school.

1. Fever along with behavioral change or other signs of illness such as sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, earache, etc. Fever is designed as having a temperature of 100 degrees or higher.
2. Symptoms and signs of possible severe illness until medical evaluation allows inclusion. May include unusual tiredness, uncontrolled coughing or wheezing, continuous crying, anger, or difficulty breathing.
3. Diarrhea-runny, watery or bloody stools too watery to be contained in underwear.
4. Vomiting 2 or more times in a 24 hour period.
5. Body rash with fever and undiagnosed skin sores until treated.
6. Sore throat with fever and swollen glands.
7. Eye Discharge-Thick mucus or pus draining from the eye or pink eye until 24 hours after treatment starts. (Viral conjunctivitis usually has a clear watery discharge and may not require medication and exclusion).
8. Severe coughing-child gets red or blue in the face, or makes a high pitched whooping sound after coughing.
9. Child is irritable, continuously crying or requires more attention than you can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children in your care.
10. Head Lice or nits (we recommend treating prior to returning to school.)

Children who have been ill with elevated temperatures, vomiting or diarrhea should not be sent back to school until vomiting or diarrhea has not occurred for 24 hours and temperature is within normal limits without the use of a fever reducing product (Tylenol).

Your child must stay home for at least 24 hours after the doctor prescribes a medication for a contagious infection such as impetigo, strep throat, or pink eye. Sending a child to class too soon often means you child feels worse as the day progresses and you may be called to pick up your child again. We will also send home letters to the classroom students to notify parents if their child has been exposed to a communicable disease.

Please understand that the reason for excluding a child from school due to an illness are:

1. The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in routine activities.
2. The illness requires more care than the school staff is able to provide without compromising the health and safety of the other children.
3. The illness is any of the specific diagnosed conditions listed above.

Thanks,
Jenna Grout RN, BSN
jgrout@mid-prairie.k12.ia.us

Lori Minor RN, MSN
lminor@mid-prairie.k12.ia.us