



WHEN DO I NEED A DOCTOR'S EXCUSE?

A **doctor's excuse/clearance** is required, *regardless of the number of days of absence*, for the following **communicable and potentially communicable diseases**: *measles, mumps, whooping cough, respiratory streptococcal infections, scarlet fever, impetigo, skin rashes, conjunctivitis (pinkeye), ringworm of the scalp, scabies, meningitis, and infectious mononucleosis*. A doctor's excuse/clearance should also be presented to the school in case of injuries like a fracture or concussion, or surgery such as an appendectomy, tonsillectomy, or myringotomy for ear tubes. This information is helpful to school personnel, and for the protection of the student, in case there are any restrictions in activities, complications to watch for, or to update your child's health record.

A note from the parent/guardian is sufficient for all other illnesses. **Any student who is absent from school for 3 or more consecutive days and does not have a doctor's excuse/clearance must report to the nurse before being readmitted to class.**

School regulations require that a pupil with **chicken pox or head lice** be excluded from school. Students may return to school when they are fever-free and the chicken pox vesicles are dry and have scabs and if they are lice free. A parent/guardian's note is required upon return **and your child must report to the nurse to be cleared before being readmitted to class.**

Feel free to call the school nurse with any questions.

WHEN SHOULD I KEEP MY CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL?

Sometimes parents send their children to school to have them evaluated by the school nurse before they take them to the doctor for an illness or injury. **Please do not send your child to school with a known illness or injury, an undiagnosed skin rash, or an injury that may require x-ray evaluation, and request that the school nurse examine him/her and prescribe treatment. Only a licensed physician can legally do this function.** Parents should keep the child home from school and have him/her evaluated by the physician.

In order to prevent the spread of germs, please keep your child home from school if s/he shows any of the following symptoms: unusual skin eruptions/undiagnosed rashes, diarrhea or vomiting more than once in a 24 hour period, fever over 100 degrees, persistent cough or headache, chills, swollen glands, discharge or redness of eyes, or sore throat. Please check your child for signs of illness before sending him/her to school. If your child has been excluded from school due to vomiting, diarrhea, fever of 100 degrees or higher, please keep him/her home from school the following day to avoid infecting others. A child who is ill will not be able to learn, may infect other children and will not be happy in school. **Your child must be fever-free (without the use of fever-reducing medications) for 24 hours before returning to school.**