

When is sick too sick for school?

A regular attendance routine is important for your child's well-being and learning. These tips can help you decide when to keep your child home when they don't feel well.



Send me to school if

- I have a runny nose or just a little cough, but no other symptoms.
- I haven't had a fever overnight and haven't taken fever reducing medicine during that time.
- I have a mild stomach ache.
- I haven't thrown up overnight and can drink liquids without throwing up.
- I have a mild rash and no other symptoms.
- I have eye drainage without fever, eye pain or eyelid redness.



Keep me at home if

- I have a temperature higher than 100.4
- I have thrown up two or more times in the past 24 hours.
- My stool is watery and I may not make it to the bathroom in time.



Seek medical care if

- I have a temperature higher than 100.4 and any of the following: ear pain, sore throat, rash, stomachache, headache or tooth pain.
- I have stomach pain and fever, I have bloody or black stool, or I am dehydrated (tired and sleepy, dry mouth) and/or I have not urinated in the last 8 hours.
- I have a persistent cough or trouble breathing, or have a fever with the cough.
- I have eye swelling, eye pain or an eye injury.
- I have a rash that has blisters, is draining, is painful, looks like bruises, and/or I have a fever with the rash.

If you don't know whether to send your child to school, have specific concerns regarding your child's physical or mental health, or are worried your child will spread illness, contact your child's health care provider, a local urgent care or the school nurse.

Please note: These tips are not meant to take the place of local health department/school district health guidance including about contagious illnesses such as Covid-19 and the flu.

Find tips about how to keep your child healthy and in school on the Attendance Works website:

<https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/health-handouts-for-families/>