

Student Illness Policies

Deciding when to keep your child home from school can be difficult. If there is any doubt about the health of any child enrolled in the school, the school staff and parents should err on the side of caution to ensure that other children are not exposed to a possible contagious disease. In making decisions involving instances of child illness parents are asked to adhere to the following guidelines in making decisions about the attendance of their child(ren).

There are three reasons to keep sick children from school:

1. The child does not feel well enough to participate comfortably in usual activities, such as with signs of extreme tiredness or fatigue, unexplained irritability or persistent crying.
2. The child requires more care than the school staff is able to provide without affecting the health and safety of the other children.
3. The illness is on the following list of symptoms or illness for which exclusion (staying home) is required.

A child who has any of the following mentioned illness should NOT be sent to or return to the Montessori School of Madison until the criteria for medical exclusion are no longer applicable. **Children must be fever, vomit, and diarrhea free for AT LEAST 24 hours before returning to school.**

Should a child become ill during the school day or come to school with symptoms requiring medical exclusion (including fever, vomiting or diarrhea) the Director will call and notify the parents to return to the Montessori School of Madison to pick up the child in a prompt manner. Parents are required to come pick up their child immediately in the case that their child is sick.

The following list gives guidelines and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for exclusion from school due to illness. Children with minor illness need not be excluded unless one or more of the following exists.

Illness or Symptom	Should the child stay home?
<p>COVID-19</p> <p>Or the following symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit higher, -cough, -shortness of breath 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Parents should use CDC guidelines when deciding to return to school after having/suspecting COVID-19 or coming into contact with a person who has been ill. Any person who is confirmed as positive for COVID-19 must stay home for at least 10 days following onset of symptoms. (CDC guidance is 3 days with no fever and improvement of symptoms and 10 days since symptoms first appeared)</p>
<p>Chicken Pox</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>A child with uncomplicated chicken pox may return when blisters have dried and crusted (usually 6 days).</p>
<p>Conjunctivitis (pink or red eyes with thick mucus or pus draining from the eye)</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>May return 24 hours after antibiotic treatment IF symptoms are gone</p>
<p>Coughing (severe, uncontrolled coughing or wheezing, rapid or difficulty in breathing)</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Medical attention required.</p>
<p>Coxsackie Virus (Hand, foot and mouth disease)</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Child may return 48 hours after development of last blister.</p> <p>Child will also be sent home with the presence of mouth sores and is drooling.</p>
<p>Diarrhea with illness (vomiting, fever, rash)</p> <p>Diarrhea: stools that are watery and frequency is twice what is usual</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>May return 24 hours after the last instance of diarrhea</p>
<p>Fever over 100 degrees Fahrenheit</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>May return once fever has been gone for 24 hours without fever reducing medication.</p>
<p>Head Lice</p>	<p>Yes</p>

	May return after treatment and removal of all live lice and nits from hair
IMPETIGO/ STAPH/ MRSA	Yes May return 24 hours after treatment starts. Wound must be covered with dressing taped on all 4 sides.
Body Rash with fever	Yes Seek medical advice. Any rash that spreads quickly, has open, weeping wounds and/or is not healing should be evaluated. May return to school when medical provider determines that illness is not communicable.
Upper Respiratory Complications – large amount of thick colored nasal discharge – extreme sleepiness – ear pain – fever (above 100 orally)	Yes Seek medical advice. May return when symptoms are improved.
Ringworm	Yes May return after treatment begins. Area should be covered while in school.
Strep Throat	Yes May return after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment and no fever for 24 hours.
Vaccine Preventable Disease (mumps, measles, whooping cough)	Yes. Until judged not infectious by a medical provider. Report all cases to a pediatrician.
Vomiting (2 or more episodes in the past 24 hours)	Yes Need to remain home for 24 - 48 hours after last episode