

Brookline Public Schools
School Health Services

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Keeping children home when sick will help your child to recover more quickly. It also decreases the chance of spreading the illness to classmates and teachers. Most germs have already been shared in the day or two before your child is feeling ill; therefore whether your child stays home may depend on the ability to carry on during the school day and the impact of their illness on other student's health and learning in the class.

When to keep your child home:

1. **A cold**, in the early contagious stages (frequent sneezing, coughing, nose stuffed up, nose constantly running, child feels ill.)
2. **A temperature** of 100.0 degrees or higher in the morning. Students should not return to school until their temperature is normal for 24 hours.
3. **Vomiting or diarrhea**. Students should not return to school for 24 hours after the last episode.
4. An undiagnosed **rash**.
5. **Chicken pox**, until all of the lesions are crusted over and dry. This is usually about 5-8 days after the last lesions appear.
6. **Infections** such as **strep throats, conjunctivitis, ringworm, a bacterial respiratory infection, and impetigo**, until they have been treated for 24 hours by a medication prescribed by a physician or nurse practitioner.
7. **Lice or scabies**, until thoroughly treated. Lice eggs (nits) need to be removed as part of the treatment. Please let me know if your child has lice or scabies.

Please make sure that we have current telephone numbers both for you and any other emergency contact people. (home/work/cell).

Thank you for your assistance. Feel free to contact your school nurse if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

School Nurse