

Too Sick for School?



When should a child stay home from school for illness?

5 reasons your child may be too sick for school

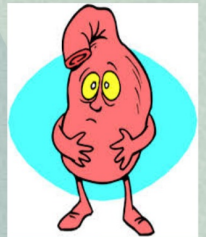


1. Fever

If a child has a temperature of 100° F or higher, your child is too sick for school. Keep them home until they have been fever free for 24 hours without the use of anti-fever medications.

2. Diarrhea or Vomiting

If a child has 3 or more loose bowel movements, even if there are no other signs of illness, your child is too sick for school. Any vomiting is a reason to send a child home or keep a child home. Keep them home until vomit and diarrhea-free for 24 hours.



3. Rash

There are different rules for returning to school depending on the cause of the rash. Children with contagious rashes, such as chicken pox and measles, need to be kept home. If your child has a rash AND a fever, keep them at home and talk with your healthcare provider.

4. Cough or Sore throat

Children with a cough or sore throat should be watched closely. If the cough or sore throat becomes worse or if the child develops a fever, the child is too sick for school.



5. Other conditions

Children with other communicable conditions such as head lice, ringworm, or scabies may need to be kept home from school. Children may need to see a healthcare provider for treatment.



Not sure if your child is too sick for school?

Talk to your school nurse or school administration about exclusion policies for these and other illnesses.