

Student Illness

When to Keep Your Child Home

Sick children need to be at home. Below is a list of guidelines to assist in the decision process:

- **Fever** - A fever is a warning that not all is right within the body. The child may have an illness that can spread to others. A child with a fever **GREATER than 100°F** should NOT be sent to school. They should not return to school until fever free without the use of a fever reducing medication (acetaminophen or ibuprofen)
- **Colds/Sore Throats/Cough** - A child with a cold with a lot of congestion, or a hacking uncontrolled cough belongs at home, even without a fever or a positive COVID test.
- **Rashes** - A rash may be the first sign of a childhood illness, such as chicken pox. All rashes are considered contagious unless a doctor states otherwise. **DO NOT send your child to school with a rash.**
- **Diarrhea** - Diarrhea is a bowel movement that is watery or looser than normal. If your child has more than one loose stool in a day, they should be kept home.
- **Vomiting** - Keep your child home until they can keep their food down for **at least 8 hours.**
- **Pink Eye** - Pink eye causes redness of the white part of the eye. There may also be clear, yellow, or green drainage. A child with pink eye does NOT need to stay home unless they also have a fever, or cannot avoid touching their eyes. An antibiotic is not required to return.
- **Head Lice** -Head lice are flat insects that live in human hair. Lice hatch from small eggs called nits. Nits attach to the hair shaft, most often behind the ears and at the nape of the neck. The adult insects bite the scalp causing itching. Anyone can get head lice. Lice are easily spread by close contact with an infected person or by sharing hats and combs. Wilmot Union High School Board Policy [po8451](#) has a “No Nit Policy”, meaning that a child with head lice needs to stay home until treated with an FDA approved pediculicide/ovicide and be free of nits to return.
- **COVID-19** - students who test positive for COVID-19 need to stay home following the district policy. Please refer to the policy for information regarding your child’s return to school and contact the school nurse for further information.
- **Your child should also remain home from school for the following reasons:**
 - The first 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment for a contagious illness
 - A doctor’s note that requires a student to remain at home for an illness
 - [Any other illness that requires your student to remain at home.](#)
- **Medication** - If your child will be on medication that must be administered during the school day, please refer to the [medication policy](#) and complete the [Medication Request and Authorization Form 5330 F1](#)

Students who are not well enough to be in class will be sent home. Resting in the health room is not an option. This is for both the protection of other students as well as the staff.

Parents are expected to pick up their children in a timely manner. Please make sure that you have designated someone on your child’s emergency contact list that will be able to pick up your child quickly if you cannot.