

## SCHOOL EXCLUSION GUIDELINES

The decision to exclude students who have infectious diseases should be made in conjunction with health care providers, parents, and school. Students should be allowed to return to school once the exclusion is met or a health provider clears the student. Generally, if any of the following conditions apply, exclusion from school should be considered:

- ✓ If the student does not feel well enough to participate comfortably in usual activities
- ✓ If the student requires more care than school personnel are able to provide
- ✓ If the student has a high fever, behavior changes, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, lack of energy, uncontrolled coughing, or other signs suggesting a possibly severe illness

ILLNESS OR SYMPTOM	EXCLUSION GUIDELINES
<b>Chicken pox</b>	<b>Exclude</b> until <u>all</u> blisters have erupted & crusted over. Needs to be diagnosed by a physician. Please call the school nurse with any questions.
<b>Common cold</b>	<b>No exclusion necessary</b> unless symptoms are severe
<b>Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)</b> pink color of eye <i>and</i> thick yellow/green discharge	<b>Exclude</b> -(bacterial or viral), until approved for return by health care provider or until 24 hours after medical treatment started
<b>Cough (significant)</b> (uncontrolled coughing; wheezing; rapid or difficult breathing)	<b>Exclude</b> -medical attention is necessary <b>Note:</b> Students with asthma may be cared for with a written health plan and authorization for treatment
<b>Diarrhea</b> (frequent, loose, or watery stools compared to child's normal pattern; not caused by diet or medication)	<b>Exclude</b> -until symptom free for 24 hours
<b>Fever</b> (100.4 or higher)	<b>Exclude</b> -until fever free without the use of medication for 24 hours
<b>Fifth Disease</b>	<b>No exclusion necessary</b> , unless other symptoms such as significant fatigue, etc.
<b>Hand Foot and Mouth Disease</b>	<b>No exclusion necessary</b> , unless other symptoms such as fever or discomfort from sores
<b>Head Lice</b>	May return after treatment starts
<b>Impetigo</b>	<b>Exclude</b> until 24 hours after treatment starts
<b>Rash</b> <u>with</u> fever, behavior changes, joint pain, oozing rash, etc.	<b>Exclusion is recommended <u>if</u></b> the student has other symptoms in addition to rash
<b>Ringworm</b>	<b>Exclude</b> from end of school day until after first treatment
<b>Scabies</b>	May return after treatment

<b>Shingles</b>	<b>No exclusion necessary</b> as long as blisters are covered
<b>Stomach ache/Abdominal pain</b>	<b>Exclude</b> <u>if</u> pain is severe; <u>if</u> pain occurs after an injury; or <u>if</u> student has other symptoms in addition to the stomach ache/abdominal pain
<b>Strep throat</b>	<b>Exclude</b> until 24 hours after medical treatment started
<b>Vomiting</b>	<b>Excluded</b> for 24 hour from last vomiting episode

#### References

- American Academy of Pediatrics (2016). *Managing Infectious Diseases in Child Care and Schools*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition.
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health (2007). *Comprehensive School Health Manual*.