

## When To Return Based Upon Signs and Symptoms

### Fever

Defined as oral temp greater than 100°F, axillary/temporal temp greater than 99°F, or tympanic temp greater than 101°F. Can return to school when fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

### Vomiting

Send home for vomiting two or more times in a school day unless the vomiting is known to be caused by a condition that is not contagious. Can return to school when vomiting has resolved for 24 hours.

### Diarrhea

Send home for two or more loose stools in a school day unless the diarrhea is known to be caused by a condition that is not contagious. Can return to school when diarrhea has resolved for 24 hours.

### Diarrhea with blood or mucous

Send home for one or more loose stools with blood or mucous. Can return to school when diarrhea has resolved for 24 hours.

### Generalized rash of unknown origin

Send home for rash of unknown origin. Can return when the rash is resolved or with written clearance from a health care provider.

If you have any questions about this list, please contact your child's school or the Pinellas County School Health Services Department at 727-588-6320.

For more information, visit our website at

[www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org)

**The best protection from disease is  
PREVENTION!**

**Make sure  
your children  
receive their  
immunizations  
on time ...**



**...cough or  
sneeze into  
your sleeves...**

**...and wash hands  
frequently with soap  
and warm water**



## When Can My Student Return to School? A Quick Reference Guide for Parents

If you think that your child has an illness that can be spread to others, please keep him or her home from school. Contact your child's health care provider for further assistance.

School Health Services  
727-588-6320

**Please keep your child home from school if he or she has one of the conditions or illnesses listed below. Report your child's absence to their school and consult their health care provider.**

**Chickenpox (Varicella)\***

Children may return one week after the rash first appears, or when all lesions have dried and crusted.

**Clostridium Difficile (C.Diff)**

Children may return with written clearance from a health care provider.

**Conjunctivitis (Pinkeye)**

A child who has pink or red eyes with white or yellow drainage may have conjunctivitis. Students **do not need** to be kept home from school unless there are other signs of illness.

**Fifth Disease (Erythema infectiosum)**

A child with this rash, characterized by a "slapped face" appearance, **does not need** to be kept home from school. Pregnant women and immune-compromised persons should seek medical advice.

**Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease**

A child with this rash **does not need** to be kept home from school unless a fever is present, there is persistent drooling, or they are too uncomfortable to attend school.

**Head Lice**

Children should be kept home from school if they are experiencing head scratching and **live lice or nits** are present. Students may return to school when no nits or live lice are present.

**Hepatitis A\*\***

Children may return one week after the onset of jaundice or illness with written clearance from a health care provider.

**Impetigo**

Children may return 24 hours after treatment started. Area with lesions or sores must remain covered.

**Influenza or Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI)**

Children may return five days after symptoms began, or when active signs of illness have resolved. Student must be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

**Measles\*\***

Children with fever, reddened eyes, runny nose, cough, dusky-red blotchy rash on day 3 or 4, may return four days after the onset of the rash with written clearance from a health care provider.

**Meningitis\*\***

Children experiencing high fever, headache, and stiff neck may return with written clearance from a health care provider. ***\*Bacterial Meningitis is immediately reportable to Health Department.***

**Mononucleosis**

Children may return to school with written clearance from a health care provider. Clearance should include any activity restrictions.

**MRSA**

A child with MRSA **does not need** to be kept home from school unless there are other signs of illness present. All lesions or sores must be covered with no visible drainage.

**Mumps\***

Children may return five days after the onset of gland swelling.

**Pertussis\***

Children may return after five days of appropriate antibiotic therapy with written clearance from a health care provider.

**Ringworm of the body (Tinea Corporis)**

A child with ringworm on their body **does not need** to be kept home from school. Affected area must be covered during school hours.

**Ringworm of the scalp (Tinea Capitis)**

Children with ringworm of the scalp may return when treatment has started and with written clearance from a health care provider.

**Rubella (German Measles) \*\***

Children may return six days after the onset of the rash, with written clearance from a health care provider.

**Scabies**

Children may return 24 hours after treatment has begun with written clearance from a health care provider.

**Shingles**

A child with shingles **does not need** to be kept home from school unless the blisters cannot be covered. In this instance, children may return when all lesions have dried and crusted.

**Streptococcal infections (Scarlet fever, Strep throat)**

Children may return 24 hours after treatment has begun, with written clearance from a health care provider.

**Tuberculosis\***

Children with this condition can return only with written approval of the Department of Health Pinellas and with written clearance from a health care provider.

\* Reportable to DOH next business day.

\*\*Reportable to DOH immediately.

**If you have any questions about this list,  
please contact the school nurse or  
the Pinellas County School  
Health Services Department at  
(727) 588-6320.**