

Procedures for Exclusion from School Due to Illness and Medical Issues

Controlling communicable diseases at school is of the utmost importance. Since so many of our students are considered high-risk and medically fragile, it is important that children who are ill remain home from school. For your child's health and safety, we work closely with the County and State Health Departments to maintain an environment that is as healthy and clean as possible.

It is the responsibility of the parents or caretakers to have a plan in place for providing transportation home and care until they are well enough to return to school. In the event that the parent or caretaker is not available, an emergency contact will be notified. Please make sure we have the most current contact information on file. You must have a backup person you can call if there's an emergency or if your child is sick and you cannot come pick them up soon. **We ask that children be picked up within 1 hour of our phone call** to ensure their comfort and protect others from exposure to illness.

The following are conditions of particular concern to us. Please keep in mind that while your student may recover quickly from these illnesses or conditions or not be bothered by the symptoms, other students' health may be greatly compromised if they contract the illness. Please keep your student home until the symptoms are resolved (**the following school day and at least 24 hours symptom-free without medicine**)

If your child is sent home ill, the bus will be cancelled for the following day (unless it is Friday) and will not be resumed until you call transportation once symptoms are resolved. (Transportation-801-567-8840)

1. **COVID-19** keep your child home from school if he or she feels sick or has symptoms of COVID-19. (Symptoms are: fever 100.4 or higher, cough, shortness of breath, decrease in sense of smell or taste, sore throat, muscle aches and pains).
2. **FEVER** of 100.4 degrees or higher: Parents or caretakers will be called to pick up the child as soon as possible. **The student must stay home the following school day and be fever-free (without medicine) at least 24 hours** before returning to school.
3. **DIARRHEA** (excluding diagnosed IBS): This is described as liquid bowel movements that usually occur in frequent succession. Diarrhea is often accompanied by abdominal cramping and occasionally nausea and vomiting or fever. After a second bout during the school day, parents or caregivers will be called to pick the child up. **They must stay home the following school day and until 24 hours after the last diarrhea episode.**
4. **INDUCED DIARRHEA**- If any type of bowel treatment (fleets, enemas, laxatives, bowel aid, etc.) is administered, the student is to be absent until a normal bowel movement is re-established. When any type of bowel preparation is administered at home, it should be scheduled so that results occur at home and not at school. Parents or caregivers will be notified and **students will need to be picked up after the second occurrence.**

5. **VOMITING-** Parents or caretakers will be called to pick up their student as soon as possible after vomiting occurs. **The student needs to stay home the following school day and be vomit-free for 24 hours before returning to school.** *If the vomiting is determined to be due to a non-communicable condition and the child is not in danger of dehydration (ie diagnosed GERD, coughing or gagging on phlegm or behavioral self induced vomiting) alternate plans will be determined with the parents, teachers, nursing, and administration.
6. **STREP THROAT and SCARLET FEVER** (strep induced rash) If diagnosed by a doctor, the student needs to be absent from school a **minimum of 24 hours after antibiotics are first administered** and until they are able to participate in activities comfortably.
7. **CONJUNCTIVITIS** (pink eye)- Symptoms including redness of the eye(s), white/yellow active discharge, itching, swelling and irritation. Parents will be called to pick up the child as soon as possible due to the highly contagious nature of this condition. The child needs to stay home **until 24 hours after antibiotic eye drops are started and there is no longer discharge coming from the eyes.**
8. **SKIN CONDITIONS** (excluding diagnosed eczema, or other non communicable diagnosed skin condition). If the child has a rash that is new and/or spreading, with or without fever, parents will be notified and may possibly need to pick up the child. The child may return to school if the rash is gone, or a doctor's note is provided stating it is not contagious.

If a known allergen is suspected, Benadryl and/or EpiPen will be administered per doctor's orders and parental consent. Parents will be notified, and if EpiPen does have to be administered the child will need to be transported to the emergency room.

If there are open sores that are weeping or oozing fluid and cannot be covered, or the child won't leave the bandage on, the child will need to stay home until they are dry and scabbed over. Open wounds (including healing surgical incisions) must be covered with a bandage sufficient to absorb any drainage.

9. **REPORTABLE ILLNESSES-** Any illness reportable to the health department requires a doctor's note to return to school. This includes Chicken Pox, Pertussis (whooping cough), Measles, German Measles (Rubella), Mumps, Meningitis, and Hepatitis A,B, or C.

*Since these are vaccine preventable diseases (with the exception of Hepatitis C), and while the majority of our students are vaccinated, we have several students that have immunization exemptions and therefore at risk of becoming very ill. If by chance we experience an outbreak of one of these diseases and your child is exempt from receiving vaccinations, you will be notified and your child must be absent, as per Utah state law, until the danger of contracting and/or transmitting the disease has passed.

10. **SEIZURES:** Student seizures will be treated according to the doctor's orders on file and the health care plan at school. Parents or caretakers will be notified if rescue medication (ie Diastat, Versed, Ativan) is administered by nursing. If we do not have rescue medication for your child, or no doctor's order to administer one, **and** he/she has a grand mal seizure lasting 5 minutes or is in respiratory distress, **911 WILL BE CALLED.** If your child receives their rescue medication, parents will also need to take them home for recuperation and close monitoring. They do not have to stay home the

Other symptoms of illness will necessitate a call to parents/caregivers and we may ask that you pick your child up. Examples include unusual paleness, unusual tiredness, deep coughs that won't stop, wheezing, severe nasal congestion, unusual continuous crying, not eating, persistent stomach pains or any other symptoms which result in student being too ill to participate in activities

Although we want your child to be comfortable, please do not give them medication that may mask his/her symptoms and send them to school when ill.

***Please notify the school if your child has a contagious illness so that we can inform other parents of the possible exposure.**

Please call us with any questions or concerns, 801-567-8500. Call transportation dispatch to reinstate bus pick up at 801-567-8840.

Thank you for your help and understanding,
KSHS administration and nursing staff