

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.

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

It is the responsibility of the parent/caregiver to have a plan in place for providing transportation home and care until the child is well enough to return to school. In the event that the parent/caregiver is not available, an emergency contact will be notified. Please make sure we have the most current contact information on file. **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.

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.

The following are conditions of particular concern to us. Please keep in mind that while your child 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 child home until the symptoms are resolved **(at least 24 hours symptom-free without medicine)**

If your child is sent home ill, the bus will be canceled 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). Please see CDC guidelines.
2. **FEVER** If your child has a temperature/fever over 100.4 degrees or higher they will be excluded from school. **They must stay home until they are fever free for 24 hours without using any fever-reducing medications.**

3. **DIARRHEA** (excluding diagnosed IBS): This is described as an increase in the number of loose/watery stools compared to the child's normal pattern. After a second bout during the school day, students will be excluded if not consistent with the child's normal pattern. **They must stay home until they are symptom free or once a doctor has cleared them to return to school.**

4. **INDUCED DIARRHEA**- If any type of bowel treatment (enemas, laxatives, bowel aid, etc.) is administered, the child 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. **After the second occurrence, parents/caregivers will be notified and the child will need to be picked up.**

5. **VOMITING**- A parent/caregiver will be called to pick up their child as soon as possible after the first symptom of vomiting occurs. **They must stay home until they are symptom free for 24 hours.** *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) student's will be excluded until seen by a health care provider and treatment is initiated. **They may return to school 24-hours after antibiotic treatment is started.**

7. **CONJUNCTIVITIS** (pink eye)- Purulent Conjunctivitis is defined as pink or red eye with white or yellow eye discharge, often with matted eyelids after sleep and eye pain or redness of the eyelids or skin surrounding the eye. **Your child may return to school 24-hours after treatment is started or until cleared by physician to return to school.**

8. **SKIN CONDITIONS** If the child has a rash with a temperature/fever over 100.4 degrees or higher, they will be excluded from school. They may return to school after they are fever free for 24- hours without using any fever-reducing medications.
If a known allergen is suspected, Benadryl and/or EpiPen will be administered per doctor's orders and parental consent. If EpiPen has to be administered the parent/caregiver will be notified, and 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, they will need to stay home until the sores 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, tuberculosis, gastroenteritis Meningitis, and Hepatitis A,B, or C.

*In the event of an outbreak of one of these diseases and your child is exempt from receiving vaccinations, you will be notified and they 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. A parent/caregiver 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, the parent/caregiver will need to take them home for recuperation and close monitoring.

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 the student being unable to participate in routine school activities due to their condition.

Please call us with any questions or concerns, 801-567-8500.

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