

## TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?



Below are guidelines to help parents and school districts determine when to keep children/students home from school. The recommendations are based on guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state public health professionals. They were developed to help prevent the spread of potentially contagious disease. Home is the best place for a child who is ill. If your child is sick with a diagnosed communicable disease, please notify the school as soon as possible. This notification will greatly assist others who, due to medical reasons and/or treatments, have weakened immune systems and may require immediate and specialized care.



**FEVER** 

**VOMITING/DIARRHEA** 



**COUGH** 

With fever greater than 100.4° F\*. Student may return when fever-free for 24 hours (WITHOUT use of feverreducing medicine).

Any unexplained vomiting episode. May return 24 hours after last episode. Diarrhea = three or more unexplained episodes of watery or loose stool in 24 hours OR sudden onset of loose stools. May return 24 hours after last episode.

Serious, sustained coughing, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing.



**RASH** 

Any new rash accompanied by a

fever. May return after rash goes

care provider.

away or clearance given by a health



SKIN LESIONS/SORES



**OTHER** 

Drainage from a sore that cannot be contained within a bandage OR sores are increasing in size OR new sores are developing day-to-day.

Symptoms that prevent the student from active participation in usual school activities OR student is requiring more care than school can safely provide.

<sup>\*</sup> Many authorities use either 100 (37.8 degrees Celsius) or 100.4 F (38.0 degrees Celsius) as a cut-off for fever, but this number actually can range depending on factors such as the method of measurement and the age of the person. CDC has public health recommendations that are based on the presence (or absence) of fever. What is meant by this is that the person's temperature is not elevated beyond their norm. In order to provide clarity the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction supports the use of 100.4°F.