

# Is My Student Too Sick for School?

### Guidelines

A sick student cannot learn effectively and is unable to participate in classes in a meaningful way. Keeping a sick child home allows the child to rest and recover and prevents the spread of illness in the school community. If your child is exhibiting any of the following, he/she should stay home from school:

#### **Fever**

A student with a fever of 100.4 degrees or greater should stay home. The student can return to school after he/she has been fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol or Motrin. If a student is sent home from school with a fever, he/she may not return the next day.

## Vomiting/Diarrhea

A student with vomiting and/or diarrhea should stay home and may only return to school after being symptom free for 24 hours.

## Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)

A student with a red or pink eye specifically involving the white of the eye (the sclera) may have pink eye and should be evaluated by a healthcare provider. If a student is suspected of having pink eye and has been evaluated by a healthcare provider who has determined no antibiotic treatment is needed, the student may return to school. If antibiotic treatment is recommended, the child may return to school as authorized by the healthcare provider.

## Rashes

Common infectious diseases with rashes are most contagious in the early stages. A student with a suspicious rash should return to school only after a healthcare provider has made a diagnosis and has authorized the return to school.

#### Colds

Students with thick or constant nasal drainage should remain home. Very few school-age students effectively blow their noses or wash their hands afterward. A student with the above symptoms will spread the illness quickly to other children.

## **Picking Kids Up From School**

If your student needs to be sent home from school due to illness, we respectfully request that you arrive within 30 minutes of our call. We do not have a school nurse or a nurse's office with trained staff who can attend to your student's medical needs, so we appreciate your quick response to our call. We ask this out of respect to your student and respect for the other students and staff of our school.

LAH adheres to guidelines written by the PA Department of Health, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Centers for Disease Control in accordance with Pennsylvania state law and LAH policies.

