RETURN TO SCHOOL

Symptom/Disease	Return Recommendations
Common cold without fever	No exclusion necessary (follow infection control e.g. hand hygiene, cough into elbow)
Febrile viral illness	Exclude until fever and significant symptoms have resolved
Ear infection (otitis media or otitis externa)	No exclusion necessary
Conjunctivitis	Contagious until symptoms resolve; exclude only if cannot adhere to appropriate hand hygiene
Skin / soft tissue infection	Exclude only if open/draining lesion that cannot be kept covered
Vomiting ≥ 2 times in 24 hours	Exclude until vomiting resolves or vomiting diagnosed as due to non-infectious cause and can maintain hydration
Diarrhea	Exclude only if stools cannot be contained in diaper, until frequency < (usual + 2) / day
Salmonella typhi or paratyphi	Exclude until meets criteria for diarrhea AND 3 consecutive cultures collected > 48 hrs after antibiotic therapy completed negative
Shiga-toxin producing <i>E. Coli</i> (STEC) or <i>E. Coli</i> O157:H7	Exclude until meets criteria for diarrhea AND 2 consecutive cultures collected > 48 hrs after antibiotic therapy completed negative
Shigella	Exclude until meets criteria for diarrhea, treatment complete, and \geq 1 post-treatment culture negative
C. difficile	Same as diarrhea criteria above, no need for test of cure
COVID-19	Exclude until symptoms improving AND no fever for 24 hours (without use of antipyretics). Recommend added precautions (e.g. masking) x 5 days
RSV+ URI or bronchiolitis	Contagious for 5-8 days, return after day 8
Influenza	Exclude until no fever x 24 hrs (w/o antipyretic use)
Oral viral stomatitis, hand-foot-mouth disease	Exclude until afebrile and mouth sores / open blisters healed, exclude if cannot contain drool, average viral shedding duration = 7 days
Rash w/o fever or behavior change	No exclusion
Group A Strep pharyngitis	Afebrile + at least 12 hours after antibiotics started

Erythema infectiosum (parvovirus B19)	Once rash appears, no longer contagious
Hepatitis A	Exclude until 1 week after illness onset
Pertussis	Exclude until complete 5 days of antibiotics (or 21 days after cough onset)
Herpes labialis, herpetic whitlow	Exclude if cannot keep sores covered / primary infection with extensive mouth sores
Head lice	May return once treatment completed (no-nit school policies are <i>not</i> recommended)
Tinea capitis / corporis	May return once therapy started, with instructions to not share potential fomites
Scabies	May return once treatment completed (next day)
Tuberculosis	Children < 10yr cannot transmit, older children require clearance by public health
Mycoplasma pneumoniae	Exclude until respiratory symptoms resolved; antibiotic initiation does not reduce contagion
Measles	Exclude until 4 days after rash onset
Mumps	Exclude until 5 days after parotid gland swelling onset
Rubella	Exclude until 7 days after rash onset
Varicella	Exclude until all lesions crusted over and/or no new lesions x 24 hours
CMV, HIV, HBV, HCV	No exclusion from school Consult AAP Red Book for more extensive guidelines regarding school and sports participation

SOURCES

- Committee on Infectious Diseases; American Academy of Pediatrics; David W. Kimberlin, MD, FAAP; Michael T. Brady, MD, FAAP; Mary Anne Jackson, MD, FAAP; Sarah S. Long, MD, FAAP. (2018) "Section 2: Recommendations for Care of Children in Special Circumstances: Children in Out-of-Home Child Care, Management and Prevention of Infectious Diseases." Red Book 2018 (pp 125-136). Illinois, American Academy of Pediatrics.
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- Center for Disease Control and Prevention. "Isolate if you are sick. Separate yourself from others if you have COVID-19" 12 January 2021. URL: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/isolation.html Accessed February 18, 2021.

Adapted From: Young, KD. Return to School. In *PEM Fundamentals* Chang CD, Padlipsky PP, Young KD (Eds). Emergency Medicine Residents' Association. In Press. https://www.emra.org/about-emra/publications/bookstore#guides