

CANTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS *HEALTH SERVICES*

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HEALTH GUIDELINES

Because of the physical limitations and ages of some of our children, increased susceptibility to infection is a very real concern. We work in such close contact and share common work and play equipment, so spread of infection or illness from one individual to another is common. Although we do make a sincere effort to regularly disinfect commonly used objects; the best protection from illness is to keep your child home when symptoms of illness are present. When you call the absentee line of your school, please specify the nature of the illness. Here are some guidelines to follow:

Keep your child home if he/she:

- has evidence of a newly developed cold (runny, stuffy nose, coughing, sneezing). The greatest period of contagion is the first 2-3 days after onset of symptoms.
- has the flu or flu symptoms.
- has an elevated temperature, over 100 degrees within the past 24 hours.
- has a suspicious rash.
- has a sore or discharging eye(s) or ear(s).
- has had an upset stomach, vomiting or diarrhea within the past 24 hours.
- has a contagious disease (i.e. strep throat, tonsillitis, bronchitis, conjunctivitis, etc.) until he/she has been on medication at least 24 - 48 hours from the first dose.

If your child should develop any of these or other symptoms hindering the child's availability to learn during school hours, the school nurse will notify you and the child will be dismissed. Please keep your emergency contacts updated as they will be notified for a dismissal if you are not available. *The child is expected to be picked up in a timely manner to reduce the spread of illness to other students and/or staff.*

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE GUIDELINES

If your child has a communicable disease, please notify your child's teacher and school nurse. Before returning to school, your child will need to be checked by the school nurse or have a certificate from your doctor (contact the school nurse to see which is applicable).

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Recommended Minimum Absence From School</u>
Chicken Pox	7 days from appearance of first eruption, lesions crusted and fever free
Streptococcal Infections (i.e. strep. throat, scarlet fever)	24 - 48 hours after first dose of medicine
Pneumonia	Doctor's certificate for re-entry
Impetigo	24 hours after medical treatment has begun - lesions must be covered in school
Ringworm	Note from doctor that treatment has begun and child may return to school
Scabies	Note from doctor that child had been treated and may return to school
Conjunctivitis	24 hours after medication begun, no drainage
Pinworm	24 - 48 hours after treatment has begun.
Head Lice	Child has been treated with pediculicide and must be checked by school nurse to re-enter