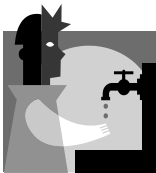


Children with the following conditions do not have to be excluded from school or out-of-home childcare, if they feel well enough to participate in regular activities:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • Bronchitis | • Pneumonia |
| • Canker Sores | • Rash without fever or behavior change |
| • Colds, without fever | • Red eye without yellow or green discharge, fever or matting |
| • Cold Sores | • RSV: Respiratory Syncytial Virus |
| • Croup | • Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever |
| • CMV: Cytomegalovirus | • Roseola |
| • Ear Infection | • Thrush |
| • Fifth Disease | • Warts, including molluscum contagiosum |
| • Hand-Foot-and-Mouth Disease | • Urinary Tract Infection |
| • Illnesses from Tick Bites | • West Nile Virus |
| • Lyme Disease | • Yeast Diaper Rash |
| • Malaria | |
| • Mononucleosis | |
| • MRSA, if child is only a carrier | |
| • Pinworms | |

Help your child stay healthy and ready to learn.

We hope that your child never has to miss school or childcare because of illness or disease. The best protection from disease is prevention. You can help prevent many illnesses by making sure your child receives immunizations and by making sure your child washes his or her hands often.



SC DHEC / Bureau of Disease Control
Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology
1751 Calhoun Street Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: 803.898.0861 / Fax: 803.898.0897
www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/exclusion.htm

Effective July 1, 2009 — June 30, 2010

Childcare Exclusion List



This also serves as the
School Exclusion List
for
Kindergarteners (K3, K4, K5)
and
Medically Fragile Students in Grades 1-12

If you think that your child has an illness that can be spread to others, please keep him or her home from school or out-of-home childcare. Contact your doctor or clinic.

Revised in August 2009

Dear Parents:

Exclusion Lists indicate for which illnesses a child must be kept out of (excluded from) school or out-of-home childcare. They also indicate what notes are needed for children to return to school or childcare after certain illnesses.

The information in this brochure applies to:

- ◆ All children in out-of-home childcare,
- ◆ All students in 3, 4, and 5 year old kindergarten, and
- ◆ Medically Fragile Students in 1st through 12th grades. Medically Fragile Students are those students with special healthcare needs and/or developmental delays who require close assistance with feeding or personal hygiene activities. You, and your child's school, in development of your child's IEP or 504 Plan, will determine if your child is considered to be medically fragile.

If you have any questions about the **Childcare Exclusion List**, please contact your child's school or your local health department.

When should sick children stay home from school?

If your child feels too sick to go to school or childcare, please keep him home.

Children should not attend school or out-of-home childcare if they have an illness that prevents them from participating comfortably in routine activities, or if they need more care than can be given without neglecting the health and safety of other children.

Children should also stay home if they have symptoms of possibly severe illnesses that they might be able to spread to other children. This includes fever, difficulty breathing, a spreading rash, weepy sores that cannot be covered, and severe vomiting and diarrhea or vomiting blood.

Does my child need to stay home when he has a mild cold?

Mild illnesses such as colds are very common among children. Most children with mild colds who have no fever and who feel well enough to go to school or childcare do not need to stay home. Most colds spread in the first 3 days before children show symptoms such as a runny nose or slight cough.

How long will my child need to stay home if she is sick?

- ◆ The inside of this brochure explains how long children should stay home after they become ill with excludable conditions.

- ◆ Sometimes children will also have to stay home from school if they are exposed to some diseases — your school or DHEC will discuss this exclusion with you.

What does my child need to come back to school?

The list inside this brochure shows whether or **Medical Note** or **Parent Note** is required to return to school or out of home childcare after exclusion for illness.

What about other activities?

Students with illnesses spread by close contact, like lice, scabies, shingles, or staph or strep skin infections, may not be allowed to participate in some sports or physical education activities.

What about "Swine Flu" or H1N1?

Students with influenza-like-illness, which is a fever of 100°F or higher plus a sore throat and/or cough will need to be out of school until they have been fever-free (temperature below 100°F without using fever medicines) for at least 24 hours.

DHEC may change this policy if there is an outbreak of flu in the school or childcare center.

If your child has one of the conditions listed below, please keep him or her home from school or out-of-home childcare. Call your child's school or childcare provider to let them know why your child is absent. Send the appropriate note when your child returns to school or out-of-home childcare.

Chicken Pox/ Varicella

Children with chicken pox may return with a **Parent Note** once all of the sores and blisters are dried/scabbed over, or if there are no scabs, until no new sores appear.

Diarrhea: For *most kinds* of diarrhea (defined as 3 or more loose stools in 24 hours)...

- ◆ **Children should stay home** until diarrhea stops, or until a doctor clears the child to return to school. Your child can return with a **Parent Note** when the diarrhea has stopped.
- ◆ Children must have a **Medical Note** to return to school after having diarrhea that contains blood or mucus.
- ◆ Students who can use the restroom or whose stools are contained in diaper-type underwear do not have to be excluded if the diarrhea is known to be from a non-contagious condition, or if the diarrhea continues after the child completes antibiotics for a diarrhea-causing illness.
- ◆ A medically fragile child or child who needs help with toileting may be excluded for fewer than 3 episodes if her condition makes it hard for her caretakers to maintain sanitary conditions in the classroom.

Diarrhea from *Campylobacter*, *E. Coli*, *Giardia*, *Rotavirus*, or *Salmonella*:

A child may return with a Medical Note...

- ◆ ***Campylobacter*, *Rotavirus* & *Shigella* and most types of *Salmonella***: After diarrhea stops.
- ◆ ***E. coli***: for the most severe type of *E. coli*, students of any age must be out of school until the diarrhea stops and 2 lab tests taken 24 hours apart test negative for *E. coli* O157:H7.
- ◆ ***Giardia***: When diarrhea stops or child has taken antibiotics for at least 24 hours.
- ◆ ***Salmonella typhi* (*Typhoid fever*)**: After 24 hours without diarrhea, and 3 lab tests are negative, if a doctor clears the child to return.

Childcare Exclusion List: A Quick Reference for Parents

- ◆ ***Shigella***: After 5 days of antibiotics or a negative lab test. A **Medical Note** is needed to return.

Fever by itself

- ◆ **Infants under 4 months old**: Keep home for rectal temperature (taken in the bottom) 101°F or higher.
- ◆ **Children over 4 months old**: Keep your child home for a fever 101°F or higher by mouth, 100°F or higher if taken under the arm, or 102°F or higher if taken in the bottom.
- ◆ Children can return with a **Parent Note** when the fever is gone.

Fever with Rash, Behavior Change or other Symptoms

Take your child to a doctor or clinic for any fever if he or she also has signs of severe illness such as a rash, change in behavior, earache, vomiting confusion, sore throat or irritability. A **Medical Note** is required to return.

Flu/ Influenza or Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)

A student with ILI or the flu will be excluded for a fever of 100°F with cough and/or sore throat until he is fever free for at least 24 hours. without any fever medicines.

German Measles/ Rubella/ 3 Day Measles

Keep your child home until 7 days after rash starts. He may return with a **Medical Note**.

Head Lice

Children may be sent home at the end of the day if head-to-head contact with other children can be avoided. Otherwise, they may be excluded immediately. Your child may return with a **Parent Note** after her first treatment with a school-approved lice-removal product.

Hepatitis A/ Yellow Jaundice

Children with acute hepatitis A may return with a **Medical Note** 1 week after the start of the jaundice.

Hib (*Haemophilus influenzae* Type B)

Students with proven Hib infection need to be out of school until at least 24 hours after they complete their antibiotics. A **Medical Note** is required to return.

Impetigo

- ◆ If your child has dry, honey-colored crusty sores that cannot be covered, he will be sent home at the end of the school day until 24 hours after starting antibiotics.
- ◆ If the sores are weepy, oozing or wet or cannot be covered and kept dry, the child will be sent home immediately. He may return after 24 hours of

antibiotics, if the sores have stopped oozing and are starting to get smaller.

- ◆ A **Medical Note** is needed to return to school.

Measles/ Red Measles/ 10 Day Measles

Children with measles can return with a **Medical Note** 4 days after the rash begins, if they have no fever and feel well enough to participate in regular school activities.

Meningitis

A student with signs of meningitis (high fever, rash, stiff neck) must remain out of school until a healthcare provider says that the student may return.

Mouth Sores inside the mouth

Children sores inside the mouth, who also drool should stay home until their health care provider says that the sores are not contagious. A **Medical Note** is .

Mumps

Children with mumps can return with a **Medical Note** 5 days after the beginning of swelling.

Pink-eye/ Conjunctivitis

Children whose eyes are red or pink, and who have eye pain and reddened eyelids, with white or yellow eye discharge or eyelids matted after sleep should not be in school until they have been examined and treated. A **Medical Note** is required to return.

Rash

Students who have a rapidly spreading rash or a rash with fever or behavior change are excluded from school immediately. A **Medical Note** is required to return.

Ringworm

- ◆ Children with **ringworm of the scalp** must remain out of school until they have begun treatment with a prescription oral antifungal medication. Your child may return with a **Medical Note**.
- ◆ Children with **ringworm of the body** may return with a **Parent Note** once they have begun oral or topical antifungal treatment, unless the affected area can be completely covered by clothing.

Scabies

Children with scabies should be out of school until treatment/medication has been applied. A **Medical Note** is required to return.

Shingles

Keep children home who have shingles lesions/sores/

blisters that cannot be covered. Your child may return with a **Parent Note** once the lesions are dried/scabbed.

Staph or Strep Skin Infections (includes MRSA)

A child with a draining sore, boil, or abscess that cannot be covered, or with sores that ooze through and soak dressings, should remain home. She may return once the draining stops, or if the drainage (oozing) can be contained in the dressing, so that no one else comes into contact with the drainage.

"Strep Throat"/ Streptococcal Pharyngitis

Your child with "Strep throat" can return to school with a **Medical Note** 24 hours after starting antibiotics if there is no fever.

Sty

A child with a draining/oozing sty should remain home until the draining stops.

Tuberculosis (TB)

A child with TB should be kept home until the doctor treating the TB writes a **Medical Note** that says that the child is no longer contagious.

Vomiting

A child who has vomited 2 or more times in 24 hours should stay home until the vomiting stops, unless she is known to not be contagious.

Whooping Cough/ Pertussis

Children with whooping cough can return to school with a **Medical Note after completing 5 days of prescribed antibiotics**, unless directed otherwise by DHEC or **your school nurse**.

When Your Child is Exposed to Serious Illnesses

DHEC and your school may recommend that your child be excluded from attendance when he or she is exposed to certain diseases, including *Neisseria meningitidis* or **Whooping Cough/ Pertussis**. DHEC may also recommend antibiotics for close contacts to these diseases.

Children who have not had all recommended immunizations and children who have immune system problems will be excluded from attending school if they are exposed to cases or outbreaks or **Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Chicken Pox**, or other conditions identified by DHEC. DHEC will work with your school to determine when it is safe for these children to return.