

Helpful hints on when to keep your child home

Exclusion Criteria

Bristol Tennessee City Schools (BTCS) believe that student success begins with attendance. However there may be times in which it may be in the best interest of the student to stay at home. The following are a few helpful hints when making the decision to keep your child home from school due to an illness.

Chicken Pox

Children should remain home until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever controlling medicines. They also need to have dry and complete scabs. This is usually seven days from the first onset of the pox.

Cold

(Mild symptoms such as stuffy nose with clear drainage and sneezing)

Your child may attend school if he or she is able to participate in school activities and is fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever controlling medications.

Conjunctivitis

(Pink eye)

Students may return to school after treatment for 24 hours and symptoms are greatly reduced.

Cough

You should keep your child home if a cough is present with a fever (101 degrees or greater). You should also keep them home if he/she has shortness of breath or if coupled with thick or constant nasal drainage.

Diarrhea

Children should be kept home if they have three or more watery stools for 24 hours. If the child has been diagnosed by their medical provider with a non-infectious condition that causes diarrhea, the student may attend school.

Ear Infection

The student may return if there is no fever.

Fever

The child should stay home from school if his/her temperature is 101 degrees or greater. Keep your child home until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever controlling medications.

Fifth Disease

By the time the rash appears, children are no longer contagious and do not need to stay home. However they must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever control medications.

Head Lice

Students may return to school after successful treatment and a bug-free condition.

Impetigo

Students may return to school after 24 hours of treatment. Sores need to be covered.

Ringworm

Students may return to school after 24 hours of treatment and ringworm site must be covered.

Scabies

Students may return to school after treatment is started.

Strep Throat

Students may return to school after 24 hours of antibiotics and fever free for 24 hours without fever controlling medications.

Vomiting

Student needs to stay home if they have vomited two or more times within the last 24 hours.

Please note that written instructions to the school from student's medical provider will take precedence over the above guidelines. For specific questions please contact your school nurse.