

New Story Schools of Ohio: Student Illness Policy

1. Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to align with the guidelines provided by the County Health Department to ensure the health and well-being of students, staff, and the broader school community during times of illness, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Rule 3301-32-.

2. When a Child Should Stay Home:

Fever: Students with a fever of 100°F (38°C) or higher should stay home until they are fever-free for at least **24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol.**

Contagious illnesses should remain at home until they are no longer contagious as determined by healthcare professionals.

• Strep throat	• Lice
• Conjunctivitis (Pinkeye)	• Scabies
• Lice	• Chicken pox
• Ringworm	• Impetigo
• Pertussis (whooping cough)	• Measles, Mumps, rubella
• Roseola	• Herpes
• Parovirus B19 Fifth disease (Hand, foot, and mouth disease)	• Croup
• Influenza (Flu)	• Covid-19

Vomiting or Diarrhea: Students who have vomited or experienced diarrhea within the past 24 hours should stay home until symptoms have subsided for at least 24 hours.

Severe Symptoms: Students exhibiting severe symptoms such:

- Excessive nasal discharge
- Unusually irritable, restless, or tired/sleepless night
- Persistent cough
- Sore throat
- Difficult or rapid breathing
- Yellowish skin or eyes
- Unusually dark urine and/or gray or white stool
- Stiff neck

3. When a Child Can Return to School:

Fever: Students may return to school once they have been fever-free for at least **24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.**

Contagious Illness: Students with contagious illnesses must provide clearance from a healthcare provider indicating they are no longer contagious before returning to school.

• Strep throat- May return to school 24 hours after treatment begins with a doctor's note.	• Lice- May return to school 24 hours after treatment begins with a doctor's note
• Conjunctivitis (Pinkeye)- May return to school 24 hours after treatment begins with a doctor's note	• Scabies- May return to school 24 hours after treatment begins with a doctor's note
• Influenza (flu)- May return to school once 24 hours fever free or until treatment with an antibiotic TamiFlu with a doctor's note	• Covid 19 - Regardless of vaccination status, individuals who test positive for COVID-19 are required to isolate from others for at least 5 days from the onset of symptoms or the date of the positive test result if asymptomatic with a doctor's note.
• Lice- May return to school 24 hours after treatment begins with a doctor's note	• Chicken pox- 6-7 days or until all blisters are dry. Send a note from doctor.
• Ringworm - May return to school 24 hours after treatment begins with a doctor's note	• Impetigo- May return to school 24 hours after treatment begins with a doctor's note and sores are drying/improving
• Pertussis (whooping cough)- May return with a doctor's note stating it is no longer contagious.	• Measles, Mumps, rubella- May return to school with a doctor's note that states no longer contagious.
• Roseola- May return once 24 hours fever free with a doctor's note.	• Herpes- May return once symptomatic rash resolves and no longer has mouth sores or is drooling with a doctor's note
• Parovirus B19 Fifth disease (Hand, foot, and mouth disease)- May return to school once fully recovered with doctor's note stating clearance to return to school.	• Croup- May return to school once severe symptoms are gone with a doctor's note.

4. When a Child Will Be Sent Home:

- **Fever:** If a student develops a fever of **100°F (38°C) or higher** while at school, they will be sent home and should remain home until they meet the criteria for returning to school as outlined above.
- **Vomiting or Diarrhea:** Students who experience vomiting or diarrhea at school will be sent home and **should not return until symptoms have subsided for at least 24 hours.**
- **Contagious Illness:** Students showing symptoms consistent with contagious illnesses, listed above, will be sent home and should not return until **cleared by a healthcare provider.**
- **Severe cough,** causing your child to become red or blue in the face or making a whooping cough.
- **Difficult or rapid breathing**
- **Yellowish skin or eyes**
- **Untreated infected skin patches / Unidentified rash**
- **Unusually dark urine and/or gray or white stool**
- **Excessive nasal discharge that is yellow or green**
- **Stiff neck**

If your child becomes sick at school, you will be contacted to come pick up your child. It is MANDATORY that you have a designated a family member or friend who is available to pick up your child if you are unable to.

5. Hospitalization Policy:

If a student requires hospitalization due to illness or injury while at school, parents or guardians will be notified immediately.

The school will work closely with healthcare providers to ensure appropriate follow-up care and communication.

If a student requires transportation from school via Emergency Medical Services (EMS) or spends the night in the hospital following discharge, the student must remain at home for a minimum of 24 hours before returning to school. This is to ensure that she/he does not relapse and is fully recovered.

The following information is required to return to school after hospitalization:

- Note from the doctor stating what date the student may return to school.
- List of restrictions or no restrictions

* All paperwork can be faxed to NSS Ohio

7. Review and Revision:

This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure alignment with current County Health Department guidelines and best practices for managing student illness. Feedback from stakeholders will be considered during the review process to enhance the effectiveness of the policy.