



How Sick is too Sick?

This information sheet was designed by the Indiana Department of Education. It is to be used as a general guidance for parents. The school health office provides advisory and emergency care only and is not a diagnostic clinic. If parents have medical questions, they are encouraged to consult with a healthcare provider for diagnosis and treatment.

Symptom	Send to School	Keep at Home
Fever	During the past 24 hours, the student's temperature has been below 100.4 degrees and no fever-reducing medication has been taken.	During the past 24 hours, the student's temperature has been more than 100.4 degrees.
Diarrhea	During the past 24 hours, no more than one watery stool has occurred.	During the past 24 hours, more than one watery stool has occurred.
Vomiting	During the past 24 hours, no vomiting has occurred.	During the past 24 hours, vomiting has occurred.
Eye Irritation	Eyes may be itchy, but are not red, crusty, or draining.	Eyes are pink, draining, crusty, itching, painful, sensitive to light, or student has vision changes.
Cough/Runny Nose	Slight cough or runny nose, but no fever, and the student is able to cover cough, blow nose, and wash hands.	Symptoms are severe enough that a student is unable to learn. The student has a fever, or is unable to cover cough, blow nose, or wash hands.
Rash	Rash is not draining or spreading. The student does not have a fever, and symptoms of itching are not severe enough to impede learning.	Rash is bothersome and distracting. The student has a fever or severe itching, or rash is spreading and draining.
Asthma	Symptoms are well controlled, and the student knows when to contact an adult for assistance or the student has an asthma action plan on file at the school and is following the plan.	Symptoms are not well controlled. The student is not able to recognize when he/she needs assistance, and no asthma action plan is on file at the school.