



## **FAIRFIELD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Thomas J. Haupt**  
Superintendent

**Kristi D. Ebaugh**  
District School Nurse

Dear Parents/Guardians,

There are times when it is necessary to keep your child at home because of illness. The health office follows the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on when to keep children home from school. Please review this list and save it for easy reference.

The following tips are to help you decide if your child needs to be kept home from school.

- Fever (a temperature greater than 100.3 degrees fahrenheit) within 24 hours. Please note that your child must be **fever free WITHOUT the use of medication (such as Tylenol or ibuprofen) for 24 hours before returning** to school.
- Vomiting or Diarrhea within 24 hours, must stay home.
- Strep throat - your child must take an antibiotic for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Drainage from the eyes - if your child has pink eye, they must be on antibiotic eye drops for 24 hours and have no drainage present before returning to school.
- Colds - Be sure a child knows how to handle tissues for coughing, sneezing and nose blowing, and practice good hand washing techniques. Your child may go to school as long as he or she does not have a fever or discomfort. **If symptoms are severe** (e.g., persistent cough or severe runny nose with thick mucous that will consistently interrupt their work or rest time), **please keep your child at home** so they may rest and recover and do not spread their illness.
- Frequent or Persistent Cough - If your child is coughing frequently enough to require the use of cough medicines (not cough drops), it is a good indicator that they are not ready to return to school. For this reason, OTC cough medicines will not be administered at school.
- If your child is suspected of having a communicable disease or has been diagnosed by a physician, please contact the school health office prior to sending your child to school. Examples of a communicable disease would be the flu, Covid-19, fifth disease, mononucleosis, impetigo, hand foot and mouth, etc.
- Head lice - contact school nurse - requires treatment before returning. Please plan for an adult to bring your child to school on their first day back after treatment.

If your child becomes ill at school, they will be sent to the nurse's office for care and treatment. If it is decided that your child needs to go home, it is expected that you pick up your child in a timely manner, generally within 30 minutes of initial contact. Please make sure that your Emergency Contact Forms in Skyward are always up to date. If both parents/guardians work, please add an additional contact who would be able to pick up your child in the event that you are not immediately available. As always, please reach out with any questions.

Thank you for your help and understanding,

*Nurse Kristi*

Kristi Ebaugh, RN, BSN, CSN  
ebaughk@fairfield.k12.pa.us