

Dear Parents,

Sometimes it is difficult to know when your child is not feeling well, and if it is a good idea to send him/her to school. Your care in making this decision is extremely important, not only for your child's own well-being, but for the well-being of other children in the classroom. While making this decision, please remember most education service district classrooms have medically fragile children enrolled in them. Exposure to a contagious illness could, in some cases, be life threatening.

We'd like to share the Lane County Pediatric Association guidelines for determining when to keep a child at home:

1. A fever of 99.6 or more
2. Sore throat with white spots at the back of throat and/or fever
3. Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea
4. Hacking cough and cold
5. Rash or spots on body
6. Tooth or ear ache

In most schools, conditions that may lead to a request that your child be picked up and taken home may include but are not limited to:

1. Fever
2. Infected skin lesions
3. Rashes on skin or scalp
4. Presence of lice or nits
5. Severe sore throat
6. Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea

The school nurse may also request that you take your child to a health care provider. A school may also request that when your child returns to school that he/she bring a note from a health care provider stating that he/she is no longer contagious.

Occasionally, a child returning to school may exhibit signs that clearly indicate that contagious conditions continue or have reoccurred, even after a health care provider release to return to school. In such an event, parents will be contacted and asked to pick up their child immediately and continue the exclusion from school until the contagious condition has passed.

Thanks for your thoughtfulness and help in keeping all the students in our classrooms as healthy as possible.

Remember to give your child's school a call if he/she is out due to illness.

Sincerely,