

Tips for Parents from the School Health Office

Dear Parents/Guardians of Archway North Phoenix,

Many parents ask, "When is my child sick enough to stay home from school?"

This is not always an easy question to answer! We hope that these tips can help!

A child who is sick will not be able to perform well in school and is likely to spread the illness to other children and staff. We suggest making a plan for childcare ahead of time so you will not be caught without a comforting place for your child to stay if he/she is ill.

If your child has any of the following symptoms, please keep your child home.

- **Fever** – Temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Remember that a child must be fever free (without the aid of fever reducing medication) for 24 hours before returning to school.
- **Eyes** – Thick mucus or pus draining from the eye or pink eye. With pink eye you may see white or yellow discharge, matted eyelids after sleep, eye pain, redness or itching. Your child must receive 24 hours of antibiotics and a doctor's note to return to school.
- **Cough and/or discolored nasal discharge**. A frequent, moist, productive cough, chest congestion, and/or nasal discharge that are not clear in color may be contagious and require treatment.
- **Sore throat**, especially with fever or swollen neck glands. If student has a positive Strep test they may return to school after 24 hours of antibiotics.
- **Vomiting/Diarrhea**-Students with vomiting and/ or diarrhea will not be able to attend school, remain at school and/or return to school if they are experiencing these symptoms for 24 hours.
- **Rash** – Especially with fever or itching. Any child with an undiagnosed rash will be excluded.
- **Lice, Scabies** – Children may not return to school until they have been treated for infestation and are free of nits (lice eggs attached to the hair shaft). A visual inspection of the hair by school personnel is required prior to re-admittance. Inspection will be done privately and with respect.

If your child exhibits any of these symptoms while at school, you will be notified and your child will be sent home to recover.

Please call the school's Health Office if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jenne McGinnis | School Nurse

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