



**Ada City Schools  
School Health Services**

### **When to Keep Your Child Home from School**

Deciding when a child is too sick to come to school can be difficult. Our child illness policy is based on Oklahoma School Health Law and the State Department of Health Guidelines. Exclusion from school is sometimes necessary to reduce the transmission of illness and for the safety of your child. An ill child is more susceptible to other illness.

The following list covers most common illnesses, but is not inclusive of all reasons for exclusion:

- **Chickenpox** – May return to school after all lesions are dried and crusted (usually 6 days)
- **Cold with mild symptoms** - such as stuffy nose with clear drainage and sneezing and no fever, may attend school as long as able to participate in school activities
- **Conjunctivitis (pink eye)** - May return to school 24 hours after treatment started and no matting or drainage from the eye.
- **Cough** – Keep your child home if the cough is persistent and productive and also has thick or constant nasal drainage
- **Diarrhea** – May return to school 24 hours after last stool (without use of medication) and without fever
- **Fever above 100 degrees** - May return to school when no fever or fever reducing medication (Tylenol/ Ibuprofen) for 24 hours. Please do not give your child medication to reduce fever and then send him/her to school.
- **Fifth Disease** – By the time the rash appears, the child is no longer contagious, does not need to be excluded from school.
- **Head lice** – May return to school after treatment with special preparation for killing head lice (available over the counter) and receives a note from Pontotoc County Health Department or their health care provider.
- **Impetigo** – May return to school 24 hours after appropriate treatment. The sores should be covered.
- **Poison Ivy**- Poison Ivy is not contagious from one person to another, so there is not need to be excluded from school. Open lesions need to be covered.
- **Ringworm**- May return to school as long as under treatment and area is covered

- **Scabies** – May return to school 24 hours after appropriate treatment, a note from the health care provider may be required
- **Sore throat** – A minor sore throat is usually not a problem, but a severe sore throat may be a symptom of a more serious illness.
- **Staph Infection of the skin** - May attend school as long as under treatment, area is covered and drainage is contained in bandage. May not participate in contact sports or activities till area is healed. Note from the health care provided may be required.
- **Strep Throat** – May return to school 24 hours after antibiotic treatments started and with out fever
- **Vomiting** – May return to school 24 hours after last episode (without use of medication) and with out fever

Please contact the school nurse if you have any questions or need additional information.