

SHOULD MY CHILD GO TO SCHOOL TODAY?

Guidelines for Parents of the Winton Woods City School District

Fever – If your child has a fever (a temperature of 100.0 F or greater) they should remain at home until fever free for a full 24 hours (without giving a fever reducing medication like Tylenol or Ibuprofen) and has returned to their typical behavior.

Vomiting and/or diarrhea – Your child should remain at home until they have been without any episodes of vomiting or diarrhea for a full 24 hours and have resumed a typical diet. If your child has had any of these symptoms during the night they should not be sent to school the following day.

Cold Symptoms – Runny noses are a fact of life. However, if the drainage is thick and green or if your child has a persistent or productive cough, please keep your child at home and consider consulting your physician. A constant dry cough can be a sign of more serious respiratory problems and your doctor should be notified.

Sore Throat – A child with a persistent or severe sore throat should remain at home. Consider contacting your physician if there is a fever, white patches on the tonsils, swollen tender glands, headache or stomach ache. These could indicate a possible strep infection. If positive for strep, your child should remain at home until they have been on antibiotics for 24 hours. Most physicians will advise rest at home for 1-2 days in addition to antibiotics. All prescribed medication should be taken as directed.

Earache – Children with ear pain should remain at home until they have been evaluated by their physician.

Redness or discharge in the eyes – Redness of the white part of the eye, burning or itching, yellow or white matter or crusted eyelashes are the signs of pink eye or conjunctivitis. Your child should remain at home until properly diagnosed and, if positive for conjunctivitis, has been on medication for 24 hours. This is very contagious. Spread of infection may be minimized by using good hand washing technique, keeping the hands away from the face, and not sharing washcloths and towels.

Ringworm – Skin: appears as a flat, ring-like rash that may itch or burn. Scalp: appears as scaly patches of temporary baldness, with brittle hair. Children with skin and/or scalp lesions must be kept home until 24 hours of anti-fungal treatment is completed.

Chicken Pox – A characteristic skin rash consisting of small blisters, which turn to scabs. A slight fever may be present. There may be blisters and scabs present at the same time. Your child should remain home until all blisters are scabbed over (usually 5-7 days after the appearance of the first blister). It is possible for your child to get chicken pox, even if they have been immunized.

Rashes – Rashes of unknown origin should be evaluated by a physician before your child is sent to school.

Head Lice – Lice are small grayish-tan, wingless insects that lay eggs called nits. Nits appear as small white teardrops, firmly attached to hair shafts, close to the scalp, first seen at the nape of the neck and behind the ears. PLEASE report head lice to the school so that the class can also be checked. Your child must stay home until properly treated and until ALL LIVE LICE/LOUSE HAVE BEEN REMOVED.

Wounds/skin problems such as impetigo, boils, cuts, blisters, and/or abrasions may begin to show signs of infection. Pain, tenderness, swelling, drainage, fever, and possibly a red streak beginning at the primary lesion indicate progression of the infection and require medical evaluation. Some infections may be contagious and will require your child to stay home from school until treated with medication for 24 hours or as directed by the physician. Please notify the school if our child has an infected wound.

PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INFECTION WITH GOOD HANDWASHING