

## Guidelines for Keeping Children Home from School Due to Illness Johnsburg Central School



It is sometimes difficult to decide when or how long to keep a sick child home from school. A child needs to stay home from school if they could possibly spread disease to others and/or are too sick themselves to function in a school setting. Please use the following guidelines for your child(ren). **During this time of COVID-19, JCS is going to be extra cautious when evaluating the symptoms below. We will be consulting with Warren County Public Health when determining if a student is well enough to attend school.**

**Fever:** If your child's temperature is 100 degrees fahrenheit or above, they may not remain in school. A child **MUST** be fever-free for a mandatory 24 hours (recommended 72 hours), without fever reducing medication, before returning to school.

**Cough:** If your child has a serious cough, particularly if it's accompanied by breathing trouble, keep your child home from school and consider seeing a doctor.

**Runny Nose:** If drainage is profuse and not clear, your child should remain at home until symptoms improve. If the severity of the runny nose interferes with wearing a mask (e.g., the child continuously removes their mask to blow their nose or their mask continuously becomes soiled), they should remain home.

**Sore Throat:** If your child complains of a sore throat accompanied by a fever, they must be seen by a doctor before returning to school. If they have been diagnosed with strep throat and placed on antibiotics, they must remain home until fever free for 24 hours (without the use of fever reducing medication) **and** have been on the antibiotics for at least 24 hours.

**Diarrhea/Vomiting:** If your child has vomited and/or has had diarrhea within 24 hours, they should remain home. Remember, your child may feel better after vomiting but should still be kept home for 24 hours.

**Rashes:** Skin rashes of an unknown origin should be evaluated by a doctor before sending your child to school.

**Pinkeye:** Your child should remain home from school until receiving 24 hours of antibiotic therapy and discharge from the eye has stopped. Pinkeye is highly contagious.

If your child was seen by their health care provider, it is necessary to provide a return to school note upon returning to school. The JCS fax number is (518) 251-2562.

If you are ever unsure of when to send your child(ren) and when to keep them home, please contact the school nurse, Mrs. Aurilio, for further clarification at (518) 251-2921 ext. 5.  
(created 8/12/2020 by Health Committee)