

**Diocese of Columbus
2024-2025 Sick Policy**

Sick children often expose other students and school staff members to illnesses and germs. These illnesses are disruptive to the educational process and to other children and their families. Students who are ill should be kept home to help control the spread of germs. Please follow the guidelines below to help keep our school safe and healthy:

- If your child shows these signs of illness they must remain home (or will be sent home from school):
 - Fever - Fever is defined as having a temperature of 100.0 F or higher. A student needs to be fever free for a minimum of 24 hours without the help of fever reducing medication before returning to school. **
 - Diarrhea, Stomachache and/or Vomiting - Students must remain home for 24-48 hours after stomachache, diarrhea, and/or vomiting has stopped. The student should be feeling better and food intake has returned to normal before returning to school. **
 - Difficulty Breathing - Student should stay home until he or she is feeling better and activity level has returned to normal. **
 - Sore Throat - Student should stay home if he or she has a red throat, swollen glands, or difficulty swallowing. **
 - Red Eyes and/or Eye Discharge - Student should stay home until recovered or seek evaluation by a healthcare provider. **
 - Loss of Taste and Smell - Students should seek medical evaluation. **
 - Uncontrolled cold symptoms that interfere with the student's ability to learn (e.g. ie persistent coughing and/or persistent/active runny nose) - Student should stay home until symptoms are improving and can participate in class.**
 - Undiagnosed Rash - Student should seek evaluation by a healthcare provider.
 - Other Symptoms - Students exhibiting symptoms such as extreme fatigue, body aches and/or headache and are not able to participate in class should stay home until recovered or seek evaluation by a healthcare provider. **

**If your child has suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection, please follow up with your child's healthcare provider and follow recommendations regarding testing and/or masking. Students who test positive for COVID-19 may return to school when cleared by their healthcare provider.

- Please report to the school (nurse) if your child has a communicable disease, defined as a disease that can be passed from one person to another. Examples include but are not limited to upper respiratory tract infections including COVID-19, influenza, strep throat, pink eye, vomiting and/or diarrhea, and skin infections. Children are expected to remain home during the communicable period of the disease as defined by a healthcare provider.

- Before your child returns to school after an illness, please email the school (nurse) with the following: your child's symptoms, the date symptoms started, and the best contact number for parent/guardian. If your child sees a healthcare provider for any illness, please instead provide a note from the healthcare provider upon return that includes your child's diagnosis and the date when your child is able to return to school.
- In the event a child becomes ill during the school day, the parent(s) will be called. If the parent(s) cannot be reached, the emergency contact will be called. Student(s) should be picked up within 30 minutes of notification.

THIS POLICY IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE