

Common Communicable Diseases

The diseases included in the above table are all reportable to the Health Department* and a child returning to school after one of these illnesses must bring a letter from a doctor saying he/she may return to school. (* the reporting is to be done by the school)

DISEASE	SYMPTOMS	PREVENTION	ISOLATION REGULATIONS
Chicken Pox	Watch for symptoms of a "cold" or a rash with slight fever. Rash resembles small blisters.	Immunization recommended for all children older than 12 months who are susceptible to chicken pox.	Exclude from school for 5 days after first appearance of rash or until last blister has crusted, whichever comes first.
Diarrheal Disease	Diarrhea & stomach cramps and/or vomiting.	Good personal hygiene. Child excluded from school until symptoms subside.	NONE
Diphtheria	Sore throat and fever. Symptoms rapidly becoming severe.	All children should be immunized during 1 st year of life and immunity maintained with boosters.	Exclude from school until released by Health Dept. Contacts quarantined until negative culture. Non-immunized children may be excluded from school.
Dog Bites	If child is bitten while at school, parents must be notified and child must have immediate medical attention.	Immunize cats & dogs. Report animal bites to Health Department.	Biting animal confined for 14 days.

DISEASE	SYMPTOMS	PREVENTION	ISOLATION REGULATIONS
Fifth Disease (also known as slap face disease or parvo virus B19)	Bright red “slapped cheek” like rash followed by a lace-like rash on body, arms and legs in 1-4 days.	Transmission of infection can be reduced by good hand washing and special care with respiratory secretions.	Children may continue to attend school if feeling well enough to participate. Note: Not infectious after the rash develops. Pregnant women in contact with infected children should contact their physician.
German Measles (Rubella)	Fine faint rash on face and chest. Mild symptoms of cold, swollen glands along back of neck and below ear. Symptoms appear 14-21 days after exposure.	All children should receive rubella vaccine <u>after their first birthday.</u> A child with the disease should be kept home until the rash disappears - usually 7 days.	Exclude from school 7 days after onset of rash. If an outbreak occurs in a school, unimmunized students must be excluded until 23 days after last contact with a case.
Contagious Meningitis	Sudden fever, intense headache. Nausea or vomiting 2-10 days after exposure.	Antibiotics may be prescribed to closest contacts.	Exclude from school until released by attending doctor or Health Department.
Measles	Cold symptoms, inflamed eyes, hard dry cough, high fever, rash after several days, blotchy dusky red in color, symptoms 7-14 days after exposure.	All children should receive measles vaccine <u>after first birthday.</u>	Exclude from school for 7 days following appearance of rash. In event of outbreak, unimmunized children must be excluded until 14 days elapse from the onset of the last case.
Ringworm	Dry circular patches on the skin and bare spots on the scalp.	No skin contact with infected areas of the body. Cases must be treated including wearing a cap.	Excluded until doctor certifies rash is under treatment and affected area covered.

DISEASE	SYMPTOMS	PREVENTION	ISOLATION REGULATIONS
Infectious Hepatitis	Nausea, possibly vomiting extreme fatigue and pain in upper abdomen. May develop jaundice, dark urine and light stools. Symptoms 2-6 weeks following exposure.	Thorough hand washing. Gamma Globulin to family and daycare contacts.	Excluded from school for one week following onset of jaundice.
Mumps	Fever. Swelling under ear lobes. Symptoms 12-26 days after exposure. (Commonly 18 days)	All children should be immunized against mumps <u>after first birthday.</u>	Exclude from school for 9 days from onset of swelling.
Poliomyelitis	High fever, headache, pain or stiffness in the neck and back.	All children should receive polio vaccine at 2, 4, 6, 18 months, 4-6 years, 14-16 years.	Exclude from school until released by physician or Public Health Department.
Scabies	Evidence of scratching, intense itching, especially at night. Mite burrows under skin, between fingers, head of elbow, wherever skin touches skin. Small lesions like pinholes occur along a line.	Cases must be treated. All members of the family of a case should be treated at the same time.	Exclude from school until the day after treatment.
Tuberculosis	Fever, fatigue, weight loss, cough, chest pain, spitting blood, hoarseness.	Locating infectious cases and isolating until treated with antituberculosis medicine.	As long as infectious tubercle bacilli are discharged, Doctor determines whether children may attend school.
Whooping Cough	Cough followed by characteristic whoop. Symptoms 5-21 days after exposure.	Good hand washing. All children should be immunized against whooping cough at 2, 4, 6, 18 months and booster at 4-6 years of age.	Exclude from school until whichever comes first: 1. Coughing stops 2. 21 days from onset of cough 3. After 5 days of antibiotics.

The diseases listed below are reportable to the school. Impetigo and Pink Eye must be seen and treated by a doctor before returning to school. In the case of head lice, families must adhere to Nelephant's head lice policy. (Available on request)

DISEASE	SYMPTOMS	PREVENTION	ISOLATION REGULATIONS
Head Lice	Itching, eggs on hair	Medicated shampoo. Repeated in 7-10 days.	May return to school after 1 st shampoo.
Impetigo	Crusty sores , often around nose and mouth.	Prompt separation from other children. Good hand washing, not sharing towels.	Exclude from school until 24 hours after treatment and doctor permits return.
Pink Eye	Whites of eyes red. Lids sometimes stuck together.	Exclude child from school.	May return to school 24 hours after commencing treatment