



When Should I Send My Child to School?

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Chronic Diseases (Asthma, Diabetes, Sickle Cell, Epilepsy, etc.) Chronic disease is a disease that lasts at least three months or longer. It often can be controlled, but may not be cured.</p> | <p>YES – Your child should attend school. Medication Administration Training certified staff will assist your child with his or her chronic disease and associated needs.</p> |
| <p>Child Doesn't Want to go to School</p> | <p>YES – You should keep your child in school, but try to determine what is causing the changes. Talk to school personnel and consult a health care provider. These issues may require your or school personnel's attention.</p> |
| <p>Cold Symptoms Stuffy nose/runny nose, sneezing, mild cough (without the presence of fever or yellow/green mucus)</p> | <p>YES – If your child is able to participate in school activities send him or her to school.</p> |
| <p>Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye) The white of the eye is pink; there may or may not be a thick yellow/green discharge</p> | <p>NO – if there is discharge from the eye, your child must be evaluated by a healthcare provider before returning to school.</p> |
| <p>Head Lice Intense itching of the head; may feel like something is moving</p> | <p>YES – Your child can be in school if he or she has had an initial treatment of shampooing of hair with a product approved by the FDA and the school has received a Lice Treatment Verification form (available on-site and online at www.merrifieldcda.com)</p> |
| <p>Strains, Sprains, and Pains</p> | <p>YES – If there is no known injury and your child is able to function (walk, talk, eat), he or she should be in school. If pain is severe or doesn't stop, consult a healthcare provider.</p> |
| <p>Fever Fever usually means illness, especially if your child has a fever of 100.0 or higher.</p> | <p>NO – If your child has a temperature of 100.0 or higher, keep him or her at home until the fever is below 100.0 for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication. If the fever does not go away after 2-3 days or is 102.0 or higher, you should consult a healthcare provider.</p> |
| <p>Diarrhea Frequent, loose, or watery stool may mean illness but can also be caused by food and medication</p> | <p>NO – It is recommended that you keep your child at home until stool becomes firmer and less persistent. If stool is bloody or if the child has abdominal pain, fever or vomiting, you should consult a healthcare provider.</p> |
| <p>Vomiting</p> | <p>NO – If your child shows other signs of illness, keep your child at home until the vomiting has stopped for 24 hours. If vomiting continues, contact a healthcare provider.</p> <p>YES – If vomiting is due to motion sickness, vigorous activity, overeating or eating too fast, or heat.</p> |
| <p>Coughing Severe, uncontrolled, rapid coughing, wheezing or difficulty breathing</p> | <p>NO – Keep your child at home and contact a healthcare provider. If symptoms are due to asthma, provide treatment according to your child's physician/healthcare provider. When your child does not need to use his or her inhaler or medication more frequently than every four hours, or as ordered, they may return to school.</p> |
| <p>Rash</p> | <p>NO – If a rash spreads quickly, is not healing, or has open weeping wounds, you should keep your child at home and have them seen by a healthcare provider. Your child may return to school if the healthcare provider determines it is not contagious.</p> <p>YES – If the cause of the rash is known, notify your child's teacher and the director.</p> |
| <p>Strep Throat Sore throat, fever, stomachache, red and swollen tonsils</p> | <p>Strep Throat should be diagnosed by a healthcare provider.</p> <p>NO – If your child is diagnosed with strep throat, keep your child at home for the first 24 hours AFTER an antibiotic is begun.</p> |



Merrifield Child Development Academy

Meaningful Learning & Play

Est. 1991

Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Chicken Pox, Measles & Rubella (German Measles),
Mumps, Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

NO – Keep your child at home until a healthcare provider has determined that your child is not contagious.

This information is based upon recommended guidelines from reliable sources to include the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics, Public Health Association and Fairfax County Public Schools.