

WHEN TO KEEP CHILD HOME or AWAY FROM SCHOOL

Source: American Academy of Pediatrics
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals
Office of Public Health

School officials are responsible for providing and maintaining every reasonable safeguard for a healthy environment for school age children.

Parents should inform school officials if a student is taking medication that would give the appearance of illness.

Parents should inform school officials if a student has a condition, disease, or infection that may be spread by casual contact (contagious).

Children should be kept at home or away from school if:

1. The child has a condition, disease, or infection that may be spread by casual contact (contagious).
2. The illness prevents the child from participating in school activities.
3. The child requires more care than the school staff can provide.
4. Fever is at or above **100.4 degrees F**.
5. The child is showing **signs and symptoms of severe illness:** lethargy, irritability, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, pain, aching of muscles or joints, severe headache, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
6. The child is showing **signs and symptoms of infection:** persistent cough, colored nasal drainage, sore or red throat, earache, redness of eye (with or without drainage), or skin rash of undetermined source.
7. The child has any open sore, lesion, or wound with weeping or drainage that may be spread by casual contact, that cannot be covered with a bandage, or that a bandage cannot contain the drainage.

For students with signs or symptoms of specific Communicable Diseases, the school staff will refer to the Communicable Disease Chart from Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health. These guidelines will be followed to determine if the child needs to be sent home or kept away from school.

Your child may be excluded from school if symptoms are reviewed to be suspicious of contagion or confirmation is received that he/she has a condition, disease, or infection that is known to be spread by casual contact (contagious).

Any Lincoln Preparatory School employee can refer a student to the school nurse or appropriate school staff for any of the above listed criteria or for suspicious symptoms of Communicable Disease. If you are contacted to pick up your child because he or she is sick, please be prompt in picking him/her up from school as requested. Be sure to keep the child home for the recommended duration. If you are unsure, you may call the school nurse.