

### **Guidelines for Keeping a Child Home due to Illness**

Attendance is important to insure successful performance in school. However, a child who is ill cannot concentrate on schoolwork and risks spreading infection to other students. A child must be kept home from school if he or she has one or more of the following:

1. A fever of 100 degrees or higher within past 24 hours
2. Vomiting or diarrhea within past 24 hours
3. Moderate to severe pain that would impair a child's ability to concentrate on schoolwork
4. A sore throat that has white patches visible on inspection
5. Severe cold symptoms, including copious nasal drainage or persistent cough
6. Eyes that are red, swollen or draining

### **Guidelines for Student Return to School Following an Illness**

A child who returns to school too soon following illness cannot concentrate fully on schoolwork and risks relapse. Other children in the class are also at risk of contracting illness. The following guidelines should be used to determine when a child should return to school following illness:

1. No fever for a full 24 hours, without the aid of fever-reducing medication, including Tylenol, Advil, Motrin, ibuprofen, acetaminophen, etc.
2. No vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours
3. Antibiotic therapy for full 24 hours for bacterial infections
4. Cold symptoms are mild enough so as not to interfere with participation in school activities or infect others.