



Communicable Disease Guidelines for School

CONDITION	ABLE TO BE IN SCHOOL?	COMMENTS
Chickenpox	No, may return when vesicles have scabbed over and are dry	Usually occurs approximately 6 days after start of rash
COVID-19	No, may return when BOTH are true: -symptoms are improving overall -fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication	
Hand-foot & mouth disease	Yes, as long as no fever, no uncontrolled drooling with mouth sores, feel well enough to participate in class activities	CDC guidelines
Conjunctivitis (bacterial)	Yes, can remain in school until the end of day if suspected. If diagnosed, may return once treatment with antibiotic initiated	
Conjunctivitis (viral and allergic)	Yes, can stay in school and if diagnosed, no treatment needed to return to school	
Diarrhea	No, exclude until free from diarrhea for 24 hours	
Fever/general illness	No, until temperature < 100.0 for 24 hours without fever reducing medication	Also need to be feeling well enough to participate/learn
Fifth Disease	Yes, if diagnosed and rash has already appeared	No longer contagious once rash appears- Rash can look like: Red, "slapped cheek" rash, lacelike appearing rash from trunk to arms, buttocks

		and thighs
Impetigo	Yes, if able to wash affected area, cover sore(s) loosely if able then at end of day see health professional	If diagnosed and treatment is started, may return 24 hours after initiation. When possible keep lesions covered until dry
Influenza	No, not while ill with fever and/or flu symptoms	May return after 24 hours fever free and symptoms improved
Lice	Yes, family to consult with health care provider for diagnosis and treatment before returning to school	Return after treatment started, even if nits are still present
Lyme	Yes	
Molluscum Contagiosum	Yes	
Mononucleosis	Yes, as long as fever free for 24 hours and feeling well enough to learn	Healthcare provider may give activity restrictions
MRSA skin lesion	Yes, if able to cover any open or draining wound	
Pertussis (whooping cough)	No, can return 5 days after beginning treatment	
Pneumonia	Dependent on signs/symptoms- May return after 24 hours fever free and symptoms improved	
Ringworm (tinea corporis)	Yes, recommend seeing a provider at the end of day. If tx initiated, can return after start of treatment	Best to cover skin lesions
Shingles (varicella zoster)	Yes, if lesions can be covered- if not, until all lesions are dry and crusted	
Strep throat	No, not until 24 hours after beginning treatment	Must also be fever free for 24 hours if fever present

Tonsil stones	Yes	Not contagious
Vomiting	No, may return after free from vomiting for 24 hours	

References

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[The American Academy of Pediatrics](#)