Huntsville City Schools Health Services Department HS-P2-R5 Target Audience: Parents

Single Point Lesson Student Illness Exclusions

ILLNESS EXCLUSIONS

Diarrhea: Until 24 hours after the last episode of diarrhea

Fever (100° degrees or higher): Until 24 hours after the last episode of fever without anti-fever medication

Respiratory symptoms: Until 24 hours after the last episode of productive cough or wheezing in a non-asthmatic

Severe headache: Until 24 hours after symptoms resolve in a student without a diagnosis of migraines or seasonal allergies

Skin rash with fever: Until 5 days after the onset of the rash and 24 hours after the last episode of fever without antifever medication

Skin rash without fever: Until 24 hours after the rash has faded

Vomiting: Until 24 hours after the last episode of vomiting

Wound: Any wound(s) which may spread infection must be covered at all times while at school and may require a letter from a physician to return to school.

Certain illnesses or conditions may require a letter from a physician to return to school.

For more information visit: <u>www.flu.gov</u> <u>www.adph.org/epi</u> <u>www.cdc.gov</u>



Introduction

Huntsville City Schools' Illness Procedure requires the parent, guardian or designee be contacted and required to pick up the student in a timely manner should a student develop diarrhea, fever (100 degrees or higher), respiratory symptoms, severe headache, skin rash with or without fever, vomiting or a wound while at school. Otherwise, administration will take appropriate action to ensure the health and safety of the student.

For your convenience, a list of illnesses with exclusion periods are listed on the left side of this document.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Don't be alarmed if your <u>child</u> is wearing a mask to prevent the spread of illness. At the discretion of the school nurse, students may be required to wear a mask prior to pick-up by the parent, guardian or designee.

Don't be alarmed if you see our <u>staff</u> dressed in multiple layers of protection (goggles, mask, gown, gloves, etc.) following CDC guidelines and Standard Precautions. They are wearing the necessary gear to do their job safely and to keep our students healthy and safe.

When can my child return to school?

Follow the illness exclusions listed on this handout. Certain illnesses may require a note from a physician for the student to return to school as specified by the principal or nurse.

Any student returning to school prior to the exclusion period cannot remain in class and must be picked up by the parent, guardian or designee immediately. If non-compliant with this requirement, the principal will take appropriate action.

In this document you will find answers to:

Illness Exclusions

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- When can my child return to school?
 - **Communication and Follow-up**
 - How can parents/guardians help?
- **Student Confidentiality and Privacy**

Communication and Follow-up

We want students, parents, staff and faculty to know we take health and safety seriously. Don't be alarmed when you receive a follow-up courtesy phone call from your child's school. A representative from the school will make a courtesy call to you within 24 hours of your child being sent home with any of the illness exclusions listed. For extended absences, additional follow-up courtesy calls by a representative from the school may be required.

How can parents/guardians help?

As a parent or guardian it is recommended you notify the school nurse any time your child is diagnosed with a contagious disease or condition (example: strep, influenza, head lice, hand-foot-mouth, bed bugs, etc.) or notifiable disease (example: chicken pox, measles, pertussis, etc.).

Student Confidentiality and Privacy

Your child's privacy and confidentiality is of utmost importance to us. Discretion is key. FERPA and HIPAA guidelines will be followed. Notifiable disease information will be disclosed to the Alabama Department of Health as required by law. The principal may choose to send out a generic letter or parent link phone call so parents can be alerted to watch for certain signs and symptoms to decrease the spread of disease or illness.

Thank you for your cooperation with these matters.

Stay well