When should my child stay home from School

MCS PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

Fever

- **Threshold:** Students must stay home if they have a temperature of 100.0°F or higher.
- **Return Policy:** Students must be fever-free for a full 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication (e.g., Tylenol, Ibuprofen) before returning to school.
- **Contagious Conditions:** If your child is prescribed antibiotics for a condition like strep throat, they must complete at least 24 hours of antibiotic treatment and be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to class.

2. Vomiting or Diarrhea

- **Stay Home Criteria:** Please keep your child home if they experience vomiting or diarrhea two or more times within a 24-hour period.
- **Return Policy:** Students must be free of vomiting and diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school.
- **Exception:** You may send your child to school if the symptoms were definitively caused by a non-contagious issue, such as a known medication side effect or a localized coughing spell.

3. Severe Pain

- **Guidelines:** Minor symptoms like mild headaches or sore muscles generally do not require staying home.
- **Action:** For significant pain, please keep your child home for monitoring and contact your healthcare provider if the pain persists or worsens.

4. Persistent Cough or Difficulty Breathing

- **Guidelines:** Students may attend school with a minor cough or runny nose, provided they can manage their own hygiene (e.g., blowing their nose and washing hands independently).
- **Action:** Keep your child home if they have a severe or persistent cough or difficulty breathing, as these symptoms impede learning and require medical evaluation.

5. Eye Irritation

- **Guidelines:** Keep your child home if their eyes are red, draining, or crusty, as this may indicate contagious pink eye.
- **Return Policy:** Students with only itchy eyes (likely due to allergies) may attend school. If diagnosed with pink eye, students must complete at least 12 hours of prescribed eye drop treatment before returning.

6. Rash

- **Guidelines:** Students may attend school if the rash is not spreading, not draining, and is not causing significant itching.
- **Action:** Please consult with the school nurse regarding any draining rashes to determine eligibility for attendance.

7. Asthma

1. **Guidelines:** Students with controlled asthma may attend school if they understand when to seek adult assistance and have an Emergency Action Plan in place

8. No live parasite

- **Guidelines:** If your child is found to have an infestation of a live parasite (lice, scabbies, etc) you will be contacted for pick up
- **Action:** Please consult with your school nurse if your child has live parasites. We can give you specific instructions related to your child's situation.

If you are unsure whether your child should attend school or have specific questions about these guidelines, please contact your school's health office:

- **Anderson Elementary:** 812-273-8528
- **Lydia Middleton Elementary:** 812-274-8005
- **Deputy Elementary:** 812-274-8007
- **Ryker's Ridge Elementary:** 812-274-8006
- **Madison Junior High:** 812-274-8003
- **Madison High School:** 812-274-8002

Note: For urgent medical emergencies, please dial 911 or contact your primary healthcare provider immediately.