

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME

WHEN A CHILD IS ILL, A DECISION MUST BE MADE AS TO WHETHER HE/SHE STAYS HOME OR GOES TO SCHOOL. THE FOLLOWING ARE GUIDELINES FROM THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BERLIN HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE WAUKESHA PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

1. Keep your child home at the beginning of an illness. No child with a fever over 100 degrees should be sent to school. Your child should be fever free for 24 hours, without fever reducing medication, before returning to school.
2. A child with a “hacking cough” belongs home even though fever free. A sore throat is a common symptom that often accompanies a viral infection, however one of the most common bacterial infections is strep throat. Throat cultures can be done to determine strep throat. When antibiotics are prescribed children should remain home until on antibiotic therapy for at least 24 hours before returning to school.
3. Do not send your child to school with a rash until your physician has said your child may return to school.
4. If vomiting occurs, keep your child home until he/she can keep food down.
5. A child with diarrhea should be kept home.
6. Conjunctivitis (pink eye) should be kept home until diagnosed by a physician. If on antibiotics, the child should remain home at least 24 hours after the prescription is started. If the child is not treated with antibiotic drops or ointment, he/she should remain home while experiencing symptoms of light sensitivity, drainage, tearing or redness.

Use your own common sense and remember that sick children belong at home. Your child will benefit, lose less time from school and it will decrease the risks of serious illness. When your child is kept home, fewer children are exposed to infection.

For the protection of your child and other children attending school, if your child presents with any of the above symptoms, he/she will be sent home.

According to the School District of New Berlin’s Policy for Non-emergency illness – When a child becomes ill at school, the parent or the emergency contact will be notified and the student will be sent home as soon as possible.