

**NORWALK PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES**

**Guidelines for Absence and Exclusion from School**

**Deciding when a child is to go to school can be a difficult decision for a parent.  
The following guidelines may be helpful.**

Parents/guardians are asked to:

- Notify the school when a child is absent due to illness.
- Keep your child home from school if he/she has an active illness or communicable disease (such as the flu, persistent cough, or strep throat), until cleared to return by the physician.
- Keep your child home from school if he/she has a fever (100.4°F or higher). Your child may return to school once he/she is fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications (such as Tylenol) for 24 hours.
- Keep your child home from school if he/she has had vomiting and/or diarrhea within the last 24 hours, unless cleared by his/her physician. He/she may return to school 24 hours after the last episode.
- Keep your child home from school if he/she has symptoms of pink eye (red, itchy eyes, eyes stuck together with crusty discharge in the morning), until treated and cleared to return by the physician.
- Keep your child home for the first 24 hours on antibiotic therapy.
- Keep your child home from school if he/she has unexplained rashes, until cleared to return by the physician.
- Keep your child home if you suspect he/she has lice, and contact your child's physician regarding appropriate treatment. Please inform the school nurse if your child has lice.
- Have your child evaluated by a physician if he/she has a serious complaint or a complaint lasting more than 48 hours.
- Make sure your child is up-to-date with all vaccines and physical assessments.

**Medications in School**

Medication or treatment to be administered in school must have a written order from the physician on file in the school nurse's office (authorization form available from the school nurse).

Medication must be delivered to the school nurse (with the authorization form) in its original, unopened container by a parent or other responsible adult.