

Student Illness

- ♦ Students who become ill or injured during the school day will be given proper care by the nurse.
- ♦ The parents/guardians will be notified if the illness or injury needs medical attention or if we feel a parent should determine further care.
- ♦ If a student becomes sick, we will notify parents to come and pick up a child if deemed necessary by the nurse or office personnel.
- ♦ If a student is sent home due to illness or absent due to illness, the student will not be allowed to participate in any afterschool activities or events.
- ♦ Any student who is absent from school due to illness should not return to MCA until the student is free from symptoms for a **minimum period of 24 hours**.
- ♦ If prescribed an antibiotic, MCA asks that the student refrain from returning to school until the medication has been administered for a **minimum of 24 hours**, unless a non-communicable source is identified (i.e. ear infection).
- ♦ Illnesses such as conjunctivitis (pink eye), impetigo, pediculosis (head lice), ringworm, and similar conditions must be treated before a student is permitted to return to school.
- ♦ If a student has a **fever of 100.4F** or higher, the student is not permitted to **return the next day**. The student must also remain **fever free for a minimum period of 24 hours**, without the use of over-the-counter medications, before returning to MCA. If the student is evaluated by a medical provider and a non-communicable fever source can be identified, they may return to MCA with a doctor's note prior to 24 hours.

*****If a parent is contacted to pick up a sick child, they must be picked up within
90 minutes*****

When to Keep Your Child Home

Chicken Pox / Varicella: Children with chicken pox may return once all the lesions/blisters have dried and crusted and no new lesions have appeared for 24 hours.

Diarrhea: A child must be sent home if they have any of the following:

- Three episodes of diarrhea within a 24-hour period, or
- A bowel movement that leaks out of their diaper or underwear.

The child may not return to MCA the following day. Diarrhea must have stopped for a full 24hrs without the use of medication before returning to MCA. Children who can use the restroom or whose diarrhea is contained in diaper-type underwear do not have to be excluded if the diarrhea is known to be from a non-contagious condition, or if it continues after the child completes antibiotics for a diarrhea-causing illness.

Fever: If a student has a **fever of 100.4F** or higher, the student **is not permitted to return the next day**. The student must also remain **fever free for a minimum period of 24hours**, without the use of over-the-counter medications, before returning to MCA. If the student is evaluated by a medical provider and a non-communicable fever source can be identified, they may return to MCA with a doctor's note prior to 24 hours.

Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease: Children with hand, foot, and mouth disease are not allowed at MCA while they have fever, above normal drooling, trouble swallowing, or are too sick to do normal school activities. Children may return when the **red blisters are dry and crusted over and are fever free for a minimum period of 24hours**, without the use of over-the-counter medications.

Head Lice: Your child may return with a parent note after one treatment with an over the counter or prescription lice-killing product, and if there are no active lice crawling in the hair. MCA will check your child's scalp upon returning. **If any are present, the child will need to be removed and retreated for lice before returning to MCA.**

Impetigo: Your child may return to MCA after receiving antibiotics for 24 hours, if the lesions have stopped draining and are starting to heal, or if the lesions can be covered completely with a watertight bandage. **A medical note is required to return.**

Pink eye / Conjunctivitis: A child with pinkeye should see a healthcare provider if he/she has fever, purulent drainage, or eye pain. The child must have treatment for at least 24 hours prior to returning, or have a note from their doctor confirming they are cleared to return to MCA.

Rash with fever, behavioral changes or other symptoms: Children who have a quick spreading rash, rash with fever, or rash with behavioral change are to be examined by a healthcare provider. A medical note is required to return.

Ringworm: Children with ringworm of the body must be excluded from MCA starting at the end of the day the lesion is observed and may return only after beginning appropriate antifungal treatment.

Strep Throat / Streptococcal Pharyngitis: A child with strep throat may return to MCA after they have taken prescribed antibiotic treatment for at least 24 hours and if there is no fever for 24 hours. A medical note is required.

Surgery: If a student has had any type of surgical procedure, they are permitted to return to MCA based on the medical provider's release instructions. You must provide a copy of these release instructions or a medical note upon returning to MCA.

Thrush: A child with an oral yeast infection (thrush) may return to MCA with a medical note after they have taken prescribed antifungal treatment for at least 24 hours.

Vomiting Illness: If your child has vomited one or more times within the past 24 hours, they should stay home until they have been free of vomiting for at least 24 hours.

If a student has an episode of vomiting during school hours, the student will be sent home.