

WHEN TO KEEP CHILD HOME or AWAY FROM SCHOOL

SOURCE: AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITAL
OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

School officials are responsible for providing and maintaining every reasonable safeguard for a healthy environment for school age children. Parents should inform school officials if a student is taking medication that would give the appearance of illness.

Parents should inform school officials if a student has a condition, disease, or infection that may be spread by casual contact (contagious).

Under normal conditions: Children should be kept at home or away from school if:

1. The child has a condition, disease, or infection that may be spread by casual contact (contagious).
2. The illness prevents the child from participating in school activities.
3. The child requires more care than the school staff can provide.
4. Fever is above 100.4 degrees F.
5. The child is showing **signs and symptoms of severe illness**: lethargy, irritability, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, pain, aching of muscles or joints, severe headache, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
6. The child is showing **signs and symptoms of infection**: persistent cough, colored nasal drainage, sore or red throat, earache, redness of eye (with or without drainage), or skin rash of undetermined source.
7. The child has any open sore, lesion, or wound with weeping or drainage that may be spread by casual contact, that cannot be covered with a bandage, or that a bandage cannot contain the drainage.

**YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE FREE OF FEVER, PAIN, NAUSEA,
VOMITING, or DIARRHEA**

**FOR 24 HOURS WITHOUT MEDICATION BEFORE RETURNING TO
SCHOOL.**

For students with signs or symptoms of specific Communicable Diseases, the school staff will refer to the Communicable Disease Chart from Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health. These guidelines will be followed to determine if the child needs to be sent home or kept away from school.

Your child may be excluded from school if symptoms are reviewed to be suspicious of contagion or confirmation is received that he/she has a condition, disease, or infection that is known to be spread by casual contact (contagious).

Any DWCS Employee can refer a student to the school nurse or appropriate school staff for any of the above listed criteria or for suspicious symptoms of Communicable Disease. If your child needs to be sent home from school, please be prompt in picking him/her up from school as requested. Be sure to keep the child home for the recommended duration. If you are unsure, you may call the school nurse or have the school secretary to contact her.

COVID-19 Return to School Plan for 2020-2021

***Students, faculty, and staff are highly encouraged to stay home if they are sick.**

Symptoms Requiring Absence / Exclusion

- a. Fever of 100.4F or greater
- b. Cough
- c. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- d. Active vomiting or diarrhea
- e. New loss of taste or smell
- f. Emergency Warning Signs get medical attention immediately:
 - Trouble breathing
 - Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
 - New confusion or inability to arouse
 - Bluish lips or face
- g. Or, at least **two** of these symptoms
 - Chills
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Muscle pain
 - Headache
 - Sore throat
 - Unexplained rash

(For additional information about unexplained rashes, go

to <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children/mis-c.html>)



DARBONNE WOODS CHARTER SCHOOL

