



## Communicable Diseases and Exclusion from School for Health Reasons

To protect all children from communicable illnesses, students infected with certain diseases are not allowed to come to school while they are contagious. Students should be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school. Contact your child's school nurse or administrator if you are unsure whether or not your child should return to school.

The guidelines below have been developed for the exclusion of students who have communicable or contagious diseases. These regulations are in compliance with the requirements of the Texas Department of State Health Services, Midway ISD's FFAD Legal School Board Policy, and the Texas Administrative Code Title 25, Part 1, Ch. 97, Subchapter A, Rule 97.7.

- A student with any of the following symptoms but not limited to will be excluded from school until such time as the student is free of symptoms, has been satisfactorily treated, or submits a **signed physician's statement** that he/she is not contagious or medically cleared.
  - **Fever** (100 degrees or higher)- Keep the child at home until fever free for 24 hours without the use of medications to reduce fever
  - **Vomiting/Diarrhea**- Students may return to school when totally symptom free and fever free for 24 hours without the use of medications
  - **Chickenpox**- Students may return to school seven days after the onset of rash and/or when all blisters are crusted over
  - **Strep Throat**- Students may return to school after antibiotic treatment has begun and they are fever free for 24 hours. Diagnosis by a doctor is required; school will need a doctor note that has proof of antibiotic treatment
  - **Influenza**-Students may return to school after fever free for 24 hours. Vaccination is recommended by State Health authorities
  - **Conjunctivitis** (Pink Eye)- Students may return to school with a note from their doctor and after treatment with antibiotics has begun
    - redness and swelling of the white of the eye
    - itching
    - pain, irritation, or feeling of grit or sand in the eye
    - discharge of thick yellow or green drainage
    - watery eyes
    - eyelids may be swollen or even swollen shut, will be pink, and lashes may be crusted together upon waking in the mornings



# MIDWAY ISD

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- **Impetigo**- Students may return to school with a note from their health care provider and after antibiotic treatment has been started. Lesions should be crusted over before the child returns to school
  - red, itchy sores on skin that break open
  - may leak clear fluid or pus in the first few days
  - then a yellow, honey colored crust appears
  - contagious by contact with an infected person that has draining lesions
  - requires an antibiotic
- **Ringworm, fungal infections, and scabies**- Students may return to school after 24 hours of treatment. Proof of treatment is required and will be checked by the school nurse when the student returns to school. These will require special antifungal and anti-parasitic drugs. At home, launder all clothing and linens; check family members and treat if necessary.
- **Lice**- Students may return to school after treatment with a medicated shampoo. Proof of treatment is required and will be checked by the school nurse. Children will not be able to attend school if live lice are seen on the scalp or in hair. Nits present on hair follicles are not a reason to keep children home from school. Treat at home by laundering all clothing and linens, stuffed animals, pillows, etc... Check family members and treat them if necessary.
- **Pain** and/or swelling at the angle of the **jaw**
- **Undetermined rash** on any part of the body
- **Undiagnosed scaly patches** on body or scalp
- The school nurse or district principal will notify parents that the student must be excluded for medical reasons.
- It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to transport the student from school to his/her home in a timely manner.
- For readmission, some diseases may require a statement from the student's physician affirming that the student is not contagious.

For more information on school exclusions:

- [Texas Administrative Code, Title 25 Health Services, Chapter 97 - Communicable Diseases](#)
- [Texas DSHS Notifiable Conditions](#)
- [Communicable Disease Chart on DSHS Website](#)