

GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Dear Parent,

Your children can best benefit from their educational program when they feel well enough to participate and are not infectious to other students and staff. Here are a few guidelines you can follow to decide if your child is well enough to attend school as well as school guidelines for sick children:

1. **Fever**—Any child with a temperature of 100.4 or more must be kept at home. Your child must be fever free (without the use of a fever reducing medication) for 24 hours before returning to school. Sick children should not ride the bus or walk home alone.
2. **A cold**—Your child may attend school with a mild cold if he/she seems well and is fever free. However, a child with a frequent hacking cough or a persistent runny nose should stay at home until symptoms improve.
3. **Infectious Diseases**—Children with infectious diseases such as strep throat, pinkeye (conjunctivitis), scarlet fever, etc. must be on medication for a minimum of 24 hours before returning to school. Children with infectious skin diseases such as impetigo or ringworm must be on the appropriate medication for a minimum of 24 hours and must keep the affected area covered at school.
4. **Rashes**—A child with an **unidentified** skin rash may not be allowed at school, whether the rash is contagious or not. A doctor's note must be presented to the school explaining the rash.
5. **Vomiting and Diarrhea**—If your child is vomiting or has diarrhea, please keep your child at home.
6. **Medication**—Students can receive medication at school only if the **physician medication forms have been signed by doctor and parent**. This applies to over-the-counter medications as well. Parents must bring the medication to the school in the original container or RX bottle.
7. **Lice**—If your child is found to have lice, you will be notified and they can return to school following appropriate treatment.
8. **Serious Injury**—A student with a serious injury attending school with a cast, crutches, split or wheelchair needs a note from their doctor outlining restrictions and activity level. This is so staff can be informed and precautions taken to prevent further injury.

Keeping hands clean is the most important steps we can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. Many diseases are spread by not washing hands with soap and clean running water. When should you wash your hands?

Before, during and after preparing food and before eating food
Before and after caring for someone who is sick
Before and after treating a cut or wound
After using the toilet
After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet
After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
After touching an animal, animal feed or animal waste
After handling pet food or treats
After touching garbage

The Lovington school district nurses are always available if you have any questions about your children's health.