

Too Sick for School?

When should the parent be called to come and pick up the student? Or when should the student be kept at home due to illness? While each situation is individualized, the well-being of the student and the entire class are considered. Here are some general guidelines recommended by Children’ Healthcare of Atlanta that are used:

Students should not be at school with:

Symptom	Detail	When to return
Fever	100.4 or more – usually a sign of an infection that may be contagious	Fever free for 24 hrs Without fever reducing medications
Vomiting	More than one episode – Not induce by cough or reflux	Able to maintain normal diet 24 hours since last episode
Diarrhea	May lead to dehydration or be infectious	Diarrhea free
Frequent persistent cough	May indicate secondary infection – sinusitis / pneumonia / asthma	Minimal coughing or treatment begun
Infectious Illness – strep throat / pink eye, flu, etc.	Is contagious to staff and other students	On antibiotics or treatment for 24 hours
Widespread Rash	Cause unknown or unexplained	Cause determined non-infectious
Persistent Pain	Cause needs evaluated	Pain free

These recommendations have been adopted by Fulton County Schools and are followed by the clinic assistant in your child’s school. Please consult your child’s healthcare provider when your child has the above symptoms to determine if an office visit is necessary. Also as you observe changes in your student’s health, subtle or obvious, please inform the staff to give us a “heads up” concerning your child’s health. If your child is diagnosed with a communicable illness, please inform the school.