

When Is Your Child Too Sick for School?

Daily attendance is one of the most powerful predictors of school success and on-time graduation. The Department of Education says children who are absent less than nine school days generally perform better in school. When you are making a decision about when a child is too sick to go to school or not, use these guidelines to help:

Send your child to school if...

They have a runny nose or just a little cough, but no other symptoms.



They haven't taken any fever reducing medicine for 24 hours, and haven't had a fever during that time.



They haven't thrown up or had any diarrhea for 24 hours.



They don't feel great, but have no other significant symptoms. They didn't sleep well, and are kind of tired.



Keep your child home if...

They feel sick and have had a temperature of greater than 100.4°F in the past 24 hours.



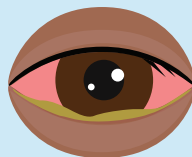
They throw up two or more times in 24 hours.



They have diarrhea—three or more watery stools in 24 hours.



Their eyes are pink and crusty.



They have a chronic cough and/or green nasal discharge.



Call the doctor if...

They have a temperature greater than 100.4°F for more than two days.



They throw up or have diarrhea for more than two days.



They've had the sniffles for more than a week, and they aren't getting better.



They still have asthma symptoms after using asthma medicine (and call 911 if I'm have trouble breathing after using an inhaler).

