

Policy 504.2-E1 Communicable Disease Chart

Concise descriptions and recommendations for exclusion of cases from school.

Source: Iowa Department of Health & Human Services

Disease <i>*Immunization Available</i>	Usual Interval Between Exposure and First Symptoms	Main Symptoms	Minimum Exclusion from School
*Chickenpox	10-21 Days [Average 14-16 Days]	Mild symptoms and fever, pocks are blistery, and scabs develop for most on covered parts of the body	Seven days from onset of rash until all blisters have crusted
Conjunctivitis [Pink Eye]	24-72 Hours	Tearing, redness, puffy lids, and discharge	Until treatment begins or physician approves return
COVID-19 [SARS-CoV-2]	2-14 Days	Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea	Five days after symptoms start and 24 hours with no fever and improved symptoms
Erythema Infectiosum [5 th Disease]	4-20 Days	Usual age is 5-14 years, unusual in adults, brief prodrome or low grade fever followed by erythema (slapped appearance on cheeks), lace-like rash on extremities lasting a few days to three weeks, and rash seems to recur	After diagnosis; no exclusion from school
*German Measles [Rubella]	14-21 Days	Usually mild, enlarged glands in neck and behind ears, and brief rash	Seven days from onset of rash; keep away from pregnant women
*Haemophilus Meningitis	2-4 Days	Fever, vomiting, lethargy, and stiff neck and back	Until physician approves return
*Hepatitis A	Varies from 15-50 Days [Average 28-30 Days]	Abdominal pain, nausea, fever, and skin/eyes may or may not turn yellow	Fourteen days from onset of clinical disease and at least seven days from onset of jaundice
Impetigo	4-10 Days	Inflamed sores with pus	Twenty-four hours after antibiotic therapy has started or until physician approves return; avoid contact with drainage from lesions and cover lesions when attending school
*Measles	10 Days to Fever 14 Days to Rash	Begins with fever, conjunctivitis, runny nose, cough, and then blotchy red rash	Four days from onset of rash
Meningococcal Meningitis	2-10 Days [Commonly 3-4 Days]	Headache, nausea, stiff neck, and fever	Until physician approves return
*Mumps	12-25 Days [Average 16-18 Days]	Fever, swelling, and tenderness of glands at angle of jaw	Five days after onset or until symptoms have resolved
Pediculosis [Head/Body Lice]	7 Days for Eggs to Hatch	Lice and nits (eggs) in hair	No need to send home upon diagnosis and return to school after initial treatment; no-nit policy is recommended
Ringworm	4-10 Days	Scaly red patch; usually ring shaped	No exclusion from school; exclude from gymnasiums, pools, and contact sports

Disease <i>*Immunization Available</i>	Usual Interval Between Exposure and First Symptoms	Main Symptoms	Minimum Exclusion from School
Scabies	2-6 Weeks for Initial Exposure 1-4 Days After Re-Exposure	Tiny burrows in skin caused by mites	Until 24 hours after treatment
Scarlet Fever Scarlatina Strep Throat	1-3 Days	Sudden onset, vomiting, fever, later a fine rash (not on face), and rash usually only with first infections	Twenty-four hours after antibiotics started and no fever
*Whooping Cough [Pertussis]	6-20 Days [Average 9-10 Days]	Head cold, slight fever, cough, and characteristic whoop after two weeks	Five days after start of antibiotic treatment

READMISSION TO SCHOOL

It is advisable that school authorities require written permission from the health officer, school physician, or attending physician before any student is readmitted to school following any disease which requires exclusion, not mere absence, from school.