



Shawano-Menominee Counties Health Department

311 N. Main Street, Room 102

Shawano, WI 54166-2198

Phone: (715) 526-4808

Fax: (715) 524-5792

www.co.shawano.wi.us



SHOULD I KEEP MY CHILD HOME OR SEND HIM/HER TO SCHOOL?

In order to help prevent spread a variety of illnesses within the school, children must stay home when they are sick. To help the school monitor for trends of illness, we ask that when calling about your child's absence, please share the category of illness the student is experiencing, this will be kept confidential. **Please keep your child home from school if he/she experiences any of the following new and/or unusual symptoms:**

- Cough*
- Shortness of breath*
- Difficulty breathing*
- New loss of smell or taste*
- Fever of 100.4 or higher**
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea**
- Chills**
- Muscle aches or body aches**
- Fatigue**
- Headache**
- Sore throat**
- Congestion or runny nose**
- Thick and/or colored nasal drainage
- Poor appetite
- Rash
- Severe ear ache (unable to concentrate)

*Stay home with one or more of these COVID-19 symptoms

**Stay home with two or more of these COVID-19 symptoms

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN TO SCHOOL?

24 Hour Rule

It is always best to **wait at least 24 hours after your child is feeling better** before sending them back to school. For COVID-19, please see COVID-19 Rules below. Examples of the 24 hour rule include:

- A child should have no fever for 24 hours (without fever reducing medication) before returning to school.
- A child who had vomiting or diarrhea should not return to school until 24 hours after the last time he/she vomited or had diarrhea.
- If a child is given antibiotics for an illness such as ear infection or strep throat, they should not return to school until at least 24 hours after the first dose of antibiotic.

COVID-19 Rules

COVID-19 has changed some of the rules for returning to school. Here are the COVID-19 rules.

- If a child has symptoms of COVID-19, please keep child home. **COVID-19 testing is encouraged.**
- If a child is being tested for COVID-19, child should remain home **while waiting for results.**
- If a child's COVID-19 test results are **positive**, child should remain home for at least 10 days from when symptoms started to appear. After 10 days, follow the 24 hour rule above.
- If a child's COVID-19 test results are **negative** (child is not a close contact to someone who tested positive) and child has been diagnosed with another illness, follow the 24 hour rule above.
- If a child has COVID-19 symptoms as listed above, but is **unable to be tested** for COVID-19, please keep child home for at least 10 days from when symptoms started. After 10 days follow 24 hour rule.
- If a child has been a **close contact** to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, please keep them home for 14 days following their last contact with the person who tested positive. If child develops symptoms during this time, please notify the health department.
- If someone in the **household** has tested positive for COVID-19, child should not return to school until at least 14 days (regardless of test results) after person who tested positive is released from isolation. If child develops symptoms during this time, please notify the health department.