

## **Because We Care**

### *When to keep your child at home*

We coordinate with the King County Department of Public Health in protecting children from certain symptoms of communicable diseases.

If your child has any of these symptoms, please keep him/her home, or make appropriate child care arrangements.

- **Appearance, behavior:** Unusually tired, pale, lack of appetite, difficult to wake, confused, or irritable. This is sufficient reason to exclude a child from school.
- **Eyes:** Thick mucus or pus draining from the eye or pink eye (conjunctivitis).
- **Fever:** Temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Child must not have had a fever for 24 hours before returning to school.
- **Greenish nasal discharge and/or chronic cough:** These conditions may be contagious and may require treatment from your health care provider.
- **Sore throat:** Especially with a fever or swollen glands in the neck.
- **Diarrhea:** Three or more watery stools in a 24-hour period, especially if the child acts or looks ill.
- **Vomiting:** Child should not return to school for 24 hours following the last episode of vomiting.
- **Rash:** Body rash, especially with fever or itching.
- **Ear infections without fever:** The child does not need to be excluded, but may need medical treatment and follow-up. Untreated ear infections can cause permanent hearing loss.
- **Lice, scabies:** Children may not return to school until they have been treated and are free of lice and nits (eggs). Children with scabies can be admitted after treatment.

If your child shows any of the above symptoms at school, it will necessary to pick him/her up from school.

- Bringing a child to school with any of the above symptoms puts other children and staff at risk of getting sick.
- If all parents keep their sick children at home, we will have stronger, healthier and happier children.

- While we regret any inconvenience this may cause, in the long run this means fewer lost work days and less illness for parents, too.