

## *When Should Students & Staff Stay Home?*

Students and staff should stay home when ill. School is not a place where a student can easily rest, and many illnesses are contagious in the school environment. Please be aware of signs and symptoms of illness and keep your student home from school if any of the following symptoms are present.

- ❖ **FEVER**-defined as having a temperature of 100-100.4 or higher taken orally (students should stay home until fever-free for 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing medication)
- ❖ **VOMITING**
- ❖ **DIARRHEA**-runny, watery or bloody stools
- ❖ **BODY RASH**-if suspicious or accompanied by a fever
- ❖ **SORE THROAT**-with a fever
- ❖ **COUGH**-with fever, or if cough is disruptive or causes difficulty breathing or vomiting
- ❖ **SHORTNESS OF BREATH OR TROUBLE BREATHING**-that is not resolved with treatment
- ❖ **EYE DISCHARGE**-thick mucous or pus draining from the eye or pink eyes
- ❖ **YELLOWISH SKIN/EYES**
- ❖ **CHICKEN POX**-until the lesions are all scabbed over (about 7 days after onset of rash)
- ❖ **HEAD LICE**-until after the treatment is completed and no live bugs remain

Students and staff who exhibit signs of illness at school will be sent home and may return when they are fever-free for 24 hours, symptoms are improving, and they feel well enough to attend school.

Contact your child's primary health care provider for the following symptoms:

- You notice a skin rash that appeared mysteriously or a skin lesion that looks suspicious. Some rashes are contagious and some require prescription treatment.
- If your child complains frequently of a headache and has other symptoms (such as a fever, nausea, vomiting, complaints about their vision), a recent head injury, or complains of a headache that has continued for two weeks or longer.

If you have questions regarding your child's health, please call your child's primary health care provider, the school nurse (375-4165) or Grant County Health Department (723-6416).