

## When Should I Keep My Child Home from School Because of Illness?

Children can become sick quickly. School is not a place where a child can easily rest, and many illnesses can spread or be passed on to others in the school environment. Please be aware of signs and symptoms of illness, and keep your child home from school if any of the following symptoms are present.

- ❖ **FEVER**-defined as having a temperature of 100.4 taken orally; students should stay home until fever-free (without the use of fever-reducing medication) for 24 hours
- ❖ **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 causes difficulty breathing or vomiting
- ❖ **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

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).

*Adapted from Grant County School Health Program*