



CORNERSTONE

LEARNING COMMUNITY

Policy for Sick Children

At Cornerstone Learning Community, we are committed to maintaining a healthy and supportive environment for all students, staff, and families. To help prevent the spread of illness and ensure your child feels their best while learning, we ask that you keep your child home if they are showing signs of illness or may be contagious. Thank you for partnering with us to protect the health of our school community! If you ever have questions about whether your child is ready to return, we encourage you to consult your healthcare provider or reach out to us directly.

Please call the school at (850) 386-5550 or email the office at clcoffice@cornerstonelc.com to let us know your child will be absent. Thank you for your help!

When to Keep Your Child Home

Please keep your child at home if they are experiencing any of the following symptoms:

- **Fever:** Temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher . Your child must be fever-free for at least 24 hours without medication before returning.
- **Vomiting or Diarrhea:** Keep your child home until they have been symptom-free for at least 24 hours.
- **Severe Cough or Difficulty Breathing:** Especially if it interferes with your child's comfort or learning.
- **Unexplained Rash:** Particularly if it is spreading, itchy, or accompanied by a fever. A healthcare provider should evaluate the rash before returning.
- **Extreme fatigue, excessive sleepiness, or general discomfort** preventing participation in regular activities.

Common Contagious Illnesses

Please notify the school if your child has been diagnosed with any of the following. Here are general return guidelines (doctor's note may be requested):

- **Chickenpox**
Keep your child home until all lesions have crusted over, usually 5–7 days after the rash first appears.
- **Strep Throat**
May return to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics, only if they have been fever-free and feeling well for 24 hours as well.
- **Pink Eye (Conjunctivitis)**
If caused by bacteria, students may return 24 hours after beginning treatment. If caused by a virus, students may return once symptoms improve and they are no longer tearing excessively. Please have your child's medical professional evaluate to distinguish the cause before returning to school.
- **Impetigo**
May return 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment, and when sores are drying or covered. The affected area must be covered while at school.
- **Ringworm**
Students with ringworm may attend school once treatment has begun. The affected area must be covered while at school.
- **Head Lice**
Children may return after treatment has been administered and no live lice are present.

If Your Child Becomes Ill at School

If a child becomes ill during the school day, families will be contacted promptly. Your child will be cared for in a quiet, supervised space until they can be picked up.

Return-to-School Requirements

To help prevent the spread of illness and ensure your child is well enough to participate in the school day, students should:

- Be fever-free, vomit-free, and diarrhea-free for at least 24 hours without the use of medication.
- No signs of contagious illness or visible symptoms that may cause discomfort to themselves or concern to others.
- Have completed at least 24 hours of any prescribed treatment (such as antibiotics or antifungal cream).
- Be feeling well enough to participate in normal school activities.

In some cases, a **doctor's note** may be required for return, especially after communicable illness, surgery, or hospitalization.

Medical Emergencies

In the event of a serious illness or medical emergency, the school will:

- Contact 911, if appropriate
- Notify parents/guardians immediately
- Administer first aid or care as needed while awaiting help

Ongoing Conditions & Medication at School

If your child has a chronic medical condition (such as asthma, epilepsy, allergies, etc.) or requires medication during the school day, please submit a Health Care Plan and Medication Authorization Form to the front office. Our staff will work with you to ensure appropriate care and response plans are in place.