



Illness Policy

We know how much your child will enjoy coming to school and never want to miss a day. However, if your child becomes sick, please inform the school by calling **770-943-2484** or emailing Ms. Darci Smith in the school office at darci.smith@praiseacademy.com.

A child with a fever, diarrhea, unexplained rash, runny nose of “green or yellow” (usually an infection), infectious diseases, any viral symptoms, or vomiting will not be allowed in school or Extended Care until the child has recovered. A child with a fever of 100 degrees or more will need to **be fever free for twenty-four hours before returning to school**. If your child is sick at night, he should not attend school the following day. Please do not give medication to control the symptoms and send them to school. In most cases, the child will run a fever after the medication wears off and is still contagious to the other children and teachers. If your child becomes sick at school, you will be called and asked to pick them up immediately. Children may return after they have been symptom-free for 24 hours.

Keep Your Child at Home IF...

- I'm vomiting (two or more times in 24 hours)
- I have a rash, lice, or nits (body rash, especially with a fever or itching)
- I have diarrhea (2 or more watery stools in 24 hours)
- I have an eye infection (thick mucus or pus draining from the eye)
- I have a sore throat (with a fever or swollen glands)
- I'm just not feeling very good (unusually tired, pale, lack of appetite, confused or cranky)
- I have a fever (temperature of 100° (F) degrees or more without medication.)

Health concerns should keep a child home from school:

- Children too ill to participate in normal activities should not be at school. They are unable to benefit from education and may infect other children and staff.
- **A child with a temperature greater than 100 degrees orally should stay home until the temperature has been normal for 24 hours.**
- If a child does not appear ill, but has a temperature above 100 degrees orally, the temperature should be checked again after the child has rested quietly for 20 minutes in a room with a comfortable temperature.
- **A child who has vomited at least twice in 24 hours or is unable to tolerate normal food and drink should stay home until the vomiting has stopped for at least 24 hours.**
- **A child with diarrhea (3 or more watery stools in 24 hours) should stay home until the diarrhea has stopped for at least 24 hours. A child with persistent diarrhea should be seen by a doctor.**

- A child with a known or suspected communicable disease should stay home until a doctor approves his return to school, (in writing) or the symptoms are no longer present. (Examples of infectious diseases: strep throat, chickenpox, shingles, herpes simplex, hepatitis A, impetigo, fungus skin infections, head lice, scabies, a reddened eye with thick mucus or pus draining from it. When a child is diagnosed with such a disease, the school health office should be alerted.)
- A child with a rash of unknown cause should stay home until seen and released by a doctor as being not contagious, or until the rash is gone.
- A child who has undergone a medical procedure requiring general anesthesia should stay home for at least 24 hours following anesthesia.
- A child with upper respiratory infection (symptoms: persistent nasal discharge that is discolored, elevated temperature, productive excessive cough) should stay home until symptoms are improved at least 24 hours, or school attendance is approved in writing by a physician.
- A child without fever but with a mild cough, runny nose, and nasal congestion may be at school with the approval of the school office.
- A child receiving antibiotic medication for at least 24 hours without fever and otherwise well may be at school.
- If a child needs to take medication while at school, written physician and parent approval, along with medication in a pharmacy labeled container, is required.
- **In addition to the conditions listed above, when a child vomits, has diarrhea, or has a fever of 100 degrees or more at school, the child will be sent home from school.**