

Recommended Exclusion Guidelines for Common Communicable Illnesses

ILLNESS	RECOMMENDED EXCLUSION PERIOD
Chickenpox	May attend once fever free, feeling well, and able to participate fully. "Spots" are not a reason to keep child at home as these indicate a stage where those affected are now less contagious than before the illness was recognized.
Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)	Should remain home until assessed by a doctor. For bacterial conjunctivitis, child should remain home until 24 hours after start of antibiotic.
Common Cold	May attend once fever free, feeling well, and able to participate fully.
Coxsackie Virus (Hand Foot and Mouth Disease)	May attend once fever free and feeling well, regardless of rash, as child is most infectious before illness is recognized.
Croup	May attend once fever free and feeling well and able to participate fully.
E.Coli Food Poisoning ("Hamburger Disease")	May return after 2 consecutive stool samples, collected 24 hours apart, are cultured negative.
Influenza	Should remain home for 5 days after symptoms begin.
Fifth Disease ("Slapped Cheek")	May attend once child is feeling well enough to participate.
Gastroenteritis (Diarrhea, Vomiting, Fever, Cramps)	Should remain home until symptom free for 24 hours. NOTE: In the event of enteric outbreak, the exclusionary period will be extended to 48 hours symptom free, or otherwise as directed by local health authority.
Pediculosis (Head Lice)	Upon detection of lice/nits, children will be sent home for treatment. Children may return once treatment has been administered, and parents will be encouraged to continue nit removal. Follow-up treatment within 7-10 days is essential.
Hepatitis A (Infectious Hepatitis, Viral Hepatitis)	Stay home until 2 weeks after onset of symptoms or 1 week after onset of jaundice.
Impetigo	May attend 24 hours after antibiotic treatment started; lesions on exposed skin should be covered.
Meningitis due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Haemophilus Influenza B (Bacterial) ▪ Meningococcal Infection (Bacterial, Spinal Meningitis) 	May return 24 hours after antibiotic treatment has begun and child is feeling well enough to participate.
Mumps	Should remain home for 5 days after the swelling first appears.
Pinworms	May attend, but should be treated by a physician.
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	If treated, child should remain home for at least 5 days after the start of antibiotics. If untreated, child should stay home for 3 weeks after the cough begins.
Ringworm	May attend once treatment with an anti-fungal medication has begun.
Roseola	Once diagnosed by a physician, child may attend once fever free, feeling well, and able to participate fully.
Rotavirus	Should remain home until symptom free for 48 hours.
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	May attend once fever free and feeling well and able to participate fully.
Rubella (German Measles)	Should remain home for 7 days after the rash appears.
Rubeola (Red Measles)	Should remain home for 4 days after the rash appears.
Scabies	May attend 24 hours after treatment (lotion) has started.
Scarlett Fever	May attend 24 hours after start of antibiotics.
Strep Throat	May attend 24 hours after start of antibiotics.
Thrush	May attend once child is feeling well enough to participate fully.

The above guidelines are based on the recommendations of The American Academy of Pediatrics, the Canadian Pediatric Society, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, Toronto Public Health and York Region Public Health.

NOTE: All exclusion periods are contingent upon the child being well enough to participate in program. Refer to the websites of specific local health authorities for additional information related to communicable diseases. Contact local health authorities for additional resources on the management and control of infectious diseases in child care settings.