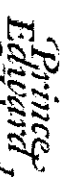
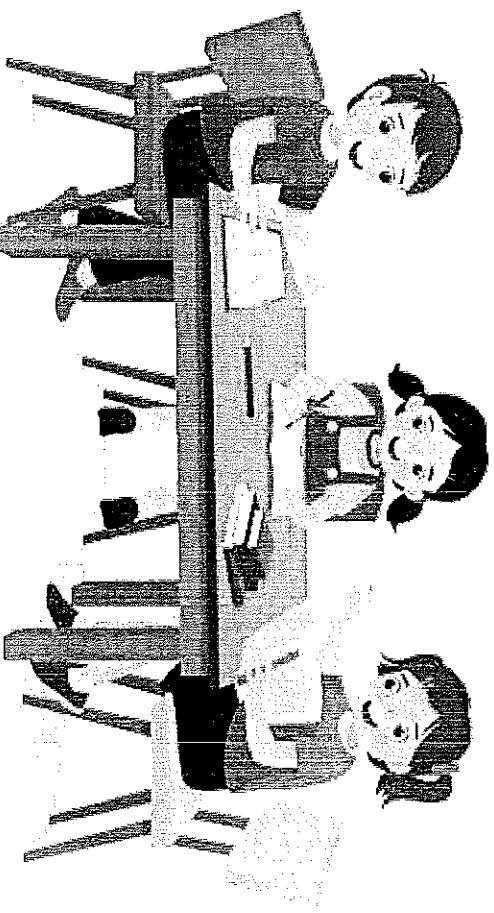




Student Health and Safety: Guidelines for school exclusion

September 2024



Health and
Wellness

Health PEI

To help maintain a healthy school environment and prevent the spread of illness, the following guidelines outline recommendations for when children should stay home from school and/or exclude themselves from activities due to specific symptoms or illnesses.

Disease	Minimum Exclusion Period for Cases
Conjunctivitis (Pink eye)	Exclude if there is a thick white or yellow discharge, fever, eye pain or eyelid swelling or significant watery discharge. No exclusion if have pink eyes with no or minimal clear or watery discharge without fever, eye pain, or eyelid redness.
Cold sores (Herpes simplex)	Exclusion is not usually required (unless significant drooling that cannot be controlled).
COVID-19 /Influenza/RSV	Exclude until symptoms are improving and child has not had fever for 24 hours.
E. coli (Verotoxigenic)	Exclude as recommended by Public Health.
Gastroenteritis (Single case -diarrhea and/or vomiting not due to a known source of infection or chronic condition)	Exclude until free of diarrhea/vomiting for 24 hours. For certain causes of gastroenteritis and in outbreak situations, longer periods of exclusion may be needed. Contact Public Health for advice.
Group A streptococcal (GAS) infection (pharyngitis/ tonsillitis [strep throat], scarlet fever, impetigo)	Exclude until 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.
Coxsackie (Hand-foot-and-mouth disease)	Exclusion is not usually required (unless significant drooling that cannot be controlled).

Hepatitis A	Exclude until 1 week from the onset of illness/jaundice.
Measles	Exclude as recommended by Public Health.
Meningitis (Meningococcal (Invasive) Disease)	Exclude as recommended by Public Health.
Mumps	Exclude as recommended by Public Health.
Pertussis (whooping cough)	Exclude as recommended by Public Health.
Ringworms	Exclude until treatment started.
Rubella (German measles)	Exclude as recommended by Public Health.
Scabies	Exclude until 24 hours after 1st treatment.
Shingles (Herpes zoster)	Exclusion is not usually required (unless skin lesions (spots) cannot be covered).
Varicella (Chickenpox)	Exclude until all skin lesions have crusted over and there are no new lesions.

EXCLUSION IS NOT REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Cytomegalovirus infection, HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, Molluscum contagiosum, Mononucleosis (EBV infection), Pediculosis (Head lice), Pinworms, Roseola infantum (Sixth disease, exanthema subitum), Fifth disease, "Slapped cheek" (erythema infectiosum), Thrush (candida), or latent (non-infectious) Tuberculosis (TB).

Please Note: With any illness, students should be fever-free for 24 hrs. without using fever-reducing medications, free of vomiting and/or diarrhea for 24 hrs. without using anti-nausea or anti-diarrheal, and well enough participate in their normal daily activities before returning to school.

In the interest of continuation of education of the child, please contact Public Health for advice if the exclusion period for any illness exceeds 1 week.