



The Montessori School of Pullman

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Sick Children At Montessori

When a child is at school and becomes sick, it affects not only the child but also parents, co-workers, siblings, other students, and the teachers.

Entirely preventing the spread of many common illnesses is nearly impossible. However, we are obligated to our teachers and other students to not expose them to illnesses. Please be aware of the guidelines for keeping a child home during and while recovering from an illness. These are accepted standards set forth by and followed by health departments across the state and country.

If you notice a change in your child's behavior, such as feeling tired or out-of-sorts, consider this a sign of the onset of illness, which is the most contagious time. Keep your child home for some extra rest if he or she is overly tired or irritable.

Children with communicable diseases (including serious colds, sore throats, persistent cough, rash, conjunctivitis and the like) or who have vomited or had diarrhea or had a fever over 100 degrees in the 24 hour preceding the school day **must be kept at home**. Children must be fever-free without medicine for 48 hours before returning to school. If your child has had a throat culture, please keep him or her at home until the results have been reported to you—even if your doctor says it is all right to send the child to school. A child who is prescribed an antibiotic must be on the medication for 24 hours before returning to school. **Please inform the Montessori School of any illness or contagious disease immediately.**

A good rule of thumb is to keep the child home at least one more day after the illness symptoms subside so your child can regain strength and vigor. Children have relapses when they return to school too soon, and pick up other infections on top of what they already have.

We understand the difficulties of making arrangements for an ill child. However, it is our hope that by keeping children at home when appropriate, we will all benefit by having our children exposed to fewer illnesses.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____