

PHILADELPHIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CHART FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL

DISEASE	INCUBATION PERIOD	TRANSMISSION	COMMON SYMPTOMS	EXCLUSION REQUIRED
CHICKEN POX (VARICELLA)	10-21 days	Direct contact with skin lesions or airborne droplets	Mild fever, itchy lesions on the head and body	Yes, until all lesions have crusted over
DIARRHEAL ILLNESS (Norovirus, Shigella, E. Coll, Salmonella)	Shigella: 1-3 days Norovirus: 12-48 hours E.Coli: 3-4 days Salmonella: 12-36 hours	Fecal-oral route	Abdominal pain, watery diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, fever	No. Individuals with adequate hand hygiene are allowed to remain in school. Individuals who work in or attend daycare and food handlers should be excluded until symptoms resolve, consult the Division of Disease Control for assistance.
FIFTH DISEASE	4-14 days	Airborne droplets	Fever, malaise, myalgia, headache, red rash on the extremities and skin, facial flushing	No
GROUP A STREPTOCOCCAL DISEASE (STREP THROAT & SCARLET FEVER)	2-5 days	Direct contact with nasal secretions, throat secretions, or infected skin/wounds	Strep throat: throat pain, difficulty swallowing, reddened tonsils, fatigue, fever, and headache Scarlet Fever: fine red rash on the armpits, groin, and around the mouth, sore throat, fever, and swollen lymph nodes	Yes, exclude during acute illness.
HAND FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE	3-6 days	Respiratory secretions, fecal-oral route, direct contact with fluid filled blisters	Blisters on the mouth, foot, buttocks, fingers, palms of hands, fever, fatigue, cough, vomiting, diarrhea	No, unless the child has weeping blisters on their skin that cannot be covered or is drooling with active mouth blisters
HEPATITIS A	15-50 days	Fecal-oral route	Jaundice, fatigue, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, anorexia	Yes, individuals should be excluded for 1 week after onset of illness.
IMPETIGO	7-10 days	Direct contact with lesions	Small red pimples or blisters that crust and form a yellow scab	Yes, re-admit to school once antibiotic treatment has been initiated for 24 hours.
INFLUENZA	1-3 days	Airborne droplets	Headache, chills, fever, sore throat, cough	Yes, until child no longer has a fever.
MENINGITIS, BACTERIAL (MENINGOCOCCAL, PNEUMOCOCCAL, H. INFLUENZAE)	Meningococcal: 1-10 days Pneumococcal: Variable H. Influenzae: Unknown	Airborne droplets	Fever, chills, purpuric rash, headache, stiff neck, vomiting, sensitivity to light	Yes, exclude during acute illness. Re-admit to school once antibiotic treatment has been initiated for 24 hours.
MRSA (METHICILLIN RESISTANT STAPHYLOCCUS AUREUS)	Variable	Contact with the bacterium through a break in the skin	Small red lesions that resemble pimples, boils, or spider bites	Individuals who are able to cover the infected area with a dressing do not need to be excluded from school. However they should be excluded from contact sports and gym until the infection is cleared.
MUMPS	16-18 days	Airborne droplets	Swollen salivary (parotid) glands, headache, fever, tiredness, loss of appetite	Yes, should be excluded 5 days after onset of parotid gland swelling.
PEDICULOSIS (HEAD LICE)	6-10 days	Direct contact with contaminated hair or fomites, sexual contact	Small, reddened bumps on the neck, scalp, and skin. Intense itching/tingling of the infected area. Visualization of lice or lice eggs.	Yes, individuals can be re-admitted after pediculosis treatment has been successfully completed.
PERTUSSIS (WHOOPIING COUGH)	7-10 days	Airborne droplets	Common cold-like symptoms develop before cough. Coughing fits may be followed by a high-pitched whooping sound or vomiting.	Yes, individuals should be excluded until they have completed 5 days of antibiotic treatment.
PINKEYE (CONJUNCTIVITIS)	24-72 hours	Direct contact with an infected person or contaminated objects. Also may be caused by allergies.	Sensitivity to bright light and watery eyes. Itchiness or redness in one or both eyes. Discharge from the eye that may cause crusting to occur overnight.	Children with clear watery eye discharge without eyelid redness do not need to be excluded. Children with purulent discharge should be excluded until they have received 24 hours of antibiotics.