

# RECOMMENDATIONS for Temporary Exclusion from a SCHOOL SETTING



**Students and faculty should be excluded from school activities for the following conditions:**

- ❌ **Chicken pox (Varicella):** exclude until all lesions have dried and crusted or, in immunized children without crusts, until no new lesions appear within a 24-hour period.
- ❌ **COVID-19:** exclude based on current CDC and SD Department of Health guidance, see [doh.sd.gov](https://doh.sd.gov).
- ❌ **Diarrheal diseases:** exclude while symptomatic only if person is unable to practice independent hygiene.
- ❌ **Haemophilus influenzae type B, invasive (Hib):** exclude until after the child has been cleared by a physician.
- ❌ **HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and other bloodborne diseases:** generally no exclusion; considerations may exist if there is potential for bloodborne exposure. Consult healthcare provider for guidance.
- ❌ **Hepatitis A:** exclude until one week after onset of illness.
- ❌ **Influenza and Influenza-like illness:** exclude until fever has been absent for 24 hours in an unmedicated state. Additional exclusions may be necessary for documented novel strain or pandemic influenza based on SD Department of Health and CDC guidance.
- ❌ **Measles:** exclude until four days after onset of rash.
- ❌ **Meningococcal disease (Neisseria meningitidis):** exclude until after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment.
- ❌ **Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA):** exclude only if confirmed MRSA is present from a wound in which drainage is occurring and cannot be covered and contained.
- ❌ **Mumps:** exclude until five days after the onset of parotid gland swelling.
- ❌ **Pertussis (Whooping cough):** exclude until completion of 5 days of appropriate antibiotic treatment. If appropriate antibiotic treatment is not received, exclude until 21 days after onset of cough.
- ❌ **Pink eye, head lice, ringworm, herpes gladiatorum, molluscum contagiosum, and skin rashes without fever:** generally no exclusion; considerations may exist for certain sports, extracurricular activities or behaviors that might increase risk of transmission. Consult healthcare provider for guidance.
- ❌ **Rubella:** exclude until seven days after onset of rash.
- ❌ **Scabies:** exclude until after treatment has started.
- ❌ **Shingles (Herpes zoster):** generally no exclusion if lesions can be covered. If lesions cannot be covered, exclude until rash or lesions have crusted over.
- ❌ **Strep throat and Streptococcal skin infections:** exclude until after 12 hours of antibiotic treatment.
- ❌ **Tuberculosis:** exclude until a physician, concurring with the SD Department of Health, states the child is not infectious.

*2024 Red Book, American Academy of Pediatrics, 33rd Edition; 2024 Managing Infectious Diseases in Child Care and Schools, A Quick Reference Guide, American Academy of Pediatrics, 6th Edition; 2022 Control of Communicable Diseases Manual, American Public Health Association, 21st Edition.*

updated: 09/2025

**If you have questions about infectious diseases or immunizations,  
contact the Department of Health or your physician.**

South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Disease Prevention Services:  
605-773-3737 or 800-592-1861

Local Disease Intervention Specialist: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Local DSS Child Care Licensing Office: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

See also SD Department of Health disease fact sheets: <https://doh.sd.gov/diseases/>

