

When to Attend School or Stay Home if Ill

To talk to a public health nurse, call Durham Region Health Department 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729.

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The child can attend school if they:

- Have a runny nose or a little cough, but no other symptoms
- No new or worsening cough or runny nose
- Have not needed to take medicine for a fever in the last 24 hours
- Have not vomited or had diarrhea in the last 48 hours

The child should stay at home if they:

- Have new symptom(s), worsening, and not related to other known causes or conditions
- Respiratory symptoms include cough, runny or stuffy/congested nose, sore throat, shortness of breath, fever and/or chills
- Have fever greater than 38 degrees Celsius
- Are vomiting or have diarrhea
- Have pink or crusty eyes
- Have a cough that keeps them awake
- Have a sore throat
- Have a diagnosed or suspected infection or disease that can be spread to teachers or friends
- Are not well enough to participate fully in activities

In addition to staying home, the child should be seen by a health care provider if they:

- Have had a fever greater than 38 degrees Celsius for longer than 2 days
- Have been vomiting or had diarrhea for longer than 2 days
- Have had a runny nose and it is not getting better
- Are still having asthma symptoms after using regular asthma medication



HEALTH
DEPARTMENT

Durham Health Connection Line | 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729
durham.ca/health

Dial 311 (within regional limits)



If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.