

Illness Policy

To protect the school community's health, a child who appears ill upon arrival will not be admitted to the school. Should a child become ill while at school, parents will be contacted to make arrangements for their immediate pick up (within 30 minutes) of the child. BMS will attempt to contact the parents first and then attempt to contact the emergency contacts listed on the Enrollment Agreement.

If your child tested negative for COVID and has a contagious illness or an illness that interferes with their ability to function at school, please keep him/her home **until the symptoms have resolved for 24 hours**. Symptoms include a fever of 100.4 degrees, vomiting, diarrhea, rash, or significant behavioral changes. Again, if your child is experiencing any combination of these symptoms, please keep your child home for at least 24 hours after the symptoms have cleared.

A slight cold, runny nose or persistent cough is usually not reason enough for a child to miss school. While unclear nasal discharge indicates a possible infection, it is usually not contagious to those around the child. Any child too ill to participate in indoor *and* outdoor activities should be kept home from school. If your child is well enough to attend school, we (BMS) will consider the child well enough to go outdoors to play. **Please call the school each day your child is ill, so we can track attendance and any patterns of illness within the classrooms.**

The safe return date may vary based on the diagnosed illness. BMS will use recommendations from local, state, and federal health agencies. At a minimum, BMS must follow the directives of the Monroe County Health Department. When there is a recommendation discrepancy, BMS reserves the right to go above and beyond those recommendations to ensure the community's safety.

Illness	Can Return to School
Fever of 100.4 or higher	24 hours fever free without medication
Vomiting or diarrhea	24 hours symptom-free
Influenza	24 hours symptom-free
Strep Throat	24 hours after the start of antibiotics
COVID-19	5 days after symptom onset with masking the following 5 days at school.
Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease	When all lesions are crusted over
Lice	After treatment, all live lice and nits must not be present.
Impetigo	24 hours after the start of antibiotics and all open sores must be covered

Pink Eye	24 hours after the start of antibiotics
Unknown Rash	After treatment by a doctor
Chicken Pox	When all lesions are crusted over

Updated: 5/10/2023