

Below is an overview of The Gateway School's Wellness Policy. This information can be found in the Parent & Student Handbook on pages 32-33.

### **The Gateway School Wellness Policy**

Deciding when to keep your child home can be difficult. However, if there is any doubt as to whether your child is well enough to attend school, please exercise caution and keep your child at home. *Students who display one or more of the following symptoms may be sent home at the School Nurse's discretion.* Use the following list of symptoms as mandatory guidelines for an illness related absence or dismissal:

1. Fever in the past 24 hours (100°F or more; must be 24 hours fever-free without medication prior to readmission)
2. Vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours
3. Pink eye (bacterial conjunctivitis; 24-hour antibiotic treatment required prior to readmission)\*
4. Strep throat (24-hour antibiotic treatment required prior to readmission)\*
5. Head lice (No Nit Policy; must receive a note from an organization, such as Licenders, prior to readmission)
6. Rash (of an unknown or contagious nature such as chicken pox, scabies, impetigo, tinea) with or without fever\*
7. Excessive coughing and sneezing (especially with copious respiratory secretions, unless a physician's note has determined that they are not contagious)
8. Any illness or fatigue that could prevent comfortable participation in school activities
9. Confirmed diagnosis of flu or flu-like symptoms\*
10. If the School Nurse requests an evaluation of a student by a doctor or advanced medical provider, a letter of clearance must be submitted before the student will be allowed to return and resume all activities.

*\*Associated symptoms with these conditions need to be ruled out by your child's physician, and medical documentation needs to be submitted, before your child can return to school.*

Please notify the School Nurse at [nurse@gatewayschool.org](mailto:nurse@gatewayschool.org) if your child is diagnosed with any contagious illness. Any child absent for three consecutive days must be cleared by their doctor and provide the school with a note from that doctor prior to being readmitted to school.

If your child has been injured, especially when they have relied on crutches, splints, braces, or ace bandages for any period of time, a note of medical clearance from your child's doctor will be necessary in order for the child to resume participation in



physical activities. If your child needs physical accommodations, please submit a doctor's note indicating the type of restriction and the duration of the accommodation.

**Should your child develop any of the conditions listed above while in school, an early pick-up will be required, as determined by the School Nurse. Parents must make arrangements to pick up their child within one hour.** In addition, if your child sustains a significant injury, has a fecal accident, or is incontinent, an early pick-up will be required. If a second set of clothing has been provided, your child may stay in school after an instance of incontinence.

***Since illness and accidents do happen during the school day, we strongly suggest you make contingency plans for your student before they are needed.***