



**Health & Human Services
Public Health Division**

140 South Holly Street
Medford, OR 97501
541-774-8209

11/16/2022

Dear Parent or Guardian,

There is an increase in viral illnesses such as influenza, RSV, rhinovirus and COVID-19 in our area, including some with the potential for severe symptoms. To limit the spread of illness, it is important that children stay home from school when ill.

If your child has **one** of the following symptoms, please keep them home for the listed timeline. See full exclusion criteria [here](#).

SYMPTOM	RETURN TO SCHOOL
Fever above 100.4	24 hours after the fever resolves without the use of fever-reducing medications such as Tylenol (acetametiphine) or Advil (ibuprofen).
Cough (new, undiagnosed persistent cough)	No cough or cough is well controlled for 24 hours.
Vomiting or diarrhea	48 hours after the last episode or when cleared by a doctor

If your student has **two** of the primary symptoms of Covid (fever, cough, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing, or shortness of breath), their return date is determined as follows.

A negative Covid test **and** the symptom-based return times are met

OR

A 5-day isolation period **and** the symptom-based return times are met.

Please call your medical care provider if you or your child is having difficulty breathing, not drinking enough fluids, or experiencing worsening symptoms. Also, contact your provider if your child is medically fragile and has been exposed to Influenza or COVID-19. Treatments for Influenza and COVID-19 are available for certain individuals if caught early.

You and your child can take additional actions to help protect yourselves and prevent the spread of the illness. These include:

- Cover your cough
- Wearing a mask indoors
- Inform the school of symptoms when reporting absence
- Wash your hands often
- Receive recommended vaccinations

Thank you for keeping this school year as healthy as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Jackson County Health Department Communicable Disease Control Program at 541-774-8200 or email Bonnie Simpson at Simpsobl@jacksoncounty.org

Thank you and stay well,

Leona O'Keefe, MD
Health Officer

Andrea Krause, DVM, MPH
Communicable Disease Manager

Bonnie Simpson, REHS
Environmental Health Specialist