

POLICY Board of Education of Queen Anne’s County Public Schools

Responsible Office:	Student Services
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Illness at School

I. PURPOSE

The Queen Anne’s County Public School System is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all students. The purpose of this document is to provide clear guidelines as to when students should not attend school due to illness.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

Although Queen Anne’s County Public Schools encourages good attendance by students, it is necessary that students not be permitted to come to school if they are ill.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. *Fever* – Defined as a temperature >100.0° Fahrenheit orally; an oral temperature of 100.0 ° Fahrenheit is approximately equivalent to 101.0° Fahrenheit rectally or temporally and 99.0° Fahrenheit axillary (armpit).
- B. *Diarrhea* – Loose or watery stools of increased frequency that are not associated with change in diet or medication.
- C. *Vomiting* – Two or more episodes of vomiting in a 24 hour period.

IV. POLICY ELEMENTS

A student experiencing a fever of 100.0° Fahrenheit or higher will be excluded from school until they have been fever free for a period of 24 hours without the use of a fever reducing medication.

A student experiencing diarrhea will be excluded from school under the following conditions:

- Stool is not able to be contained in a diaper or in the toilet (soiled undergarments)
- Stool contains blood
- Child is ill or has any signs of acute illness
- Diarrhea is accompanied by fever
- Student shows evidence of dehydration (reduced urine output or dry mouth)

With appropriate documentation, a child with diarrhea may be readmitted to school when:

- An infectious cause of diarrhea has been treated and the student is cleared by a healthcare provider, or
- The diarrhea has been determined by the local health department to not be an infectious risk to others.

A student experiencing vomiting will be excluded from school under the following conditions:

- A student experiencing two or more episodes of vomiting in a 24 hour period. The student may return to school when they have not experienced any vomiting in a 24 hour period without the use of medications and can keep solid food down. In the event that the vomiting is related to medications or a health condition no exclusion is necessary.

A student experiencing an identified communicable disease will be excluded from school based on the Communicable Disease Summary guidance, their physician’s guidance or local health department guidance.

V. IMPLEMENTATION

The Board directs the Superintendent to implement this policy.

VI. POLICY REVIEW

The Superintendent will provide the Board of Education a review of this policy every four years after its initial adoption and/or last revision. The focus of this review will be the effectiveness of the elements of this policy in assisting the Board in fulfilling its mission.

VII. SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO TITLES, DEPARTMENTS, OR LAWS

- A. Communicable Disease Summary – Maryland Department of Health, November 2011
- B. COMAR 10.16.06.31, “Exclusion for Acute Illness and Communicable Disease”

VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE

Date: Click or tap here to enter text.

Patricia Saelens, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Queen Anne’s County Public Schools

HISTORY:

Initial	--/--/----	Revised	--/--/----	Reviewe	--/--/----	Next	--/--/----
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Adoption				d		Review	
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