

Randolph Elementary School

Health Services

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Randolph-Field ISD Health Services Standard of Practice *Signs and Symptoms for Exclusion from School and Subsequent Readmission*

Our goal in health services is to support student success by returning students who are safe, healthy, and ready to learn to the classroom as quickly as possible. In order to accomplish that, our nursing assessments provide the best foundation in health/hygiene situations to determine when to send a child home so that appropriate parental intervention may be quickly begun and safe readmission achieved.

A major health consideration for exclusion from school is the potential for spread of disease from person to person; school RNs will send students home in accordance with state laws regarding communicable diseases, based on signs and symptoms related to those diseases. A student may also have symptoms, behaviors, or conditions that are not necessarily automatically excludable, but still keep the student from effectively participating in the educational process. The school RN may also exclude a student when those symptoms, behaviors, or conditions are health or hygiene related.

Students who exhibit the following signs and symptoms will be excluded from school until:

- the symptoms are gone for 24 hours or
 - a physician provides written information that the condition is not contagious or that the student is under treatment and may return to school without a health concern for other students
 - a medical diagnosis/readmission criteria has been established related to 25Texas Administrative Code §97.7 (b,d)
1. fever (oral equivalent) of 100° or more
 2. persistent vomiting (two or more episodes, one episode of vomiting is often not illness-related)
 3. diarrhea - two or more watery or loose stools, whether or not associated with fever
 4. skin rashes if rapidly spreading, purulent, weeping, or associated with fever
 5. purulent or crusting discharge from eyes with reddened conjunctiva
 6. evidence of active pediculosis (live head lice, or nits very close to the head, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch or less)
 7. persistent cough with bloody sputum

The signs and symptoms below require school RN consultation/assessment, and may result in exclusion:

- inflamed or watery eyes
- sore throats, especially with exudates and/or swelling present
- persistent cough, (dry or with expectorate) especially if other abnormal signs are present
- green/yellow nasal discharge
- skin rashes not already defined above
- itching or lesions of scalp, lack of progress in home removal of nits
- incontinence of feces or urine, especially when requiring a complete change of clothing and/or extensive presence of excretions in body cavities, hair, shoes, etc.

The school RN will make the decision to send a student home based on her assessment of the potential health and/or safety risks to that student and others, her knowledge of the student's medical history, and information from other school personnel regarding the student's ability to effectively participate in the classroom. The Principal may also serve in that capacity when needed.