

Policy JGCC: Communicable Diseases

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 05/22/2000 | **Last Revised Date:** 04/10/2017 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 04/10/2017

Communicable Diseases

The Board of Education of the Jackson County School District has the power, authority and duty to exclude from the schools students with what appears to be infectious or contagious diseases; provided, however, such student may be allowed to return to school upon presenting a certificate from a public health officer, duly licensed physician or nurse practitioner that the student is free from such disease. Section 37-7-301(h)(1995)

SECTION I

Any student having evidence of communicable diseases will have a physician diagnose the disease and prescribe suitable treatment. Common communicable diseases as listed will automatically result in exclusion from school and school-related activities for the designated period of time.

<u>DISEASE</u>	<u>EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL</u>
Chicken Pox	6 days after eruption appears
German Measles, Red Measles	Free of fever and the rash is fading
Mumps	9 days after glands swell
Hepatitis A	May return to school 1 week after the onset of jaundice
Mononucleosis	The child need not be excluded from class, unless requested for medical reasons, but may return when feeling well enough. Children should not share food or utensils
Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)	Children may return to school after a physician has been seen , or when redness/discharge is improving.
Impetigo	The child may return to class 24 hours after treatment has been started.
Pediculosis (Lice)	The child may return to class without a physicians release as soon as the first treatment has been given and treatment is verified with school officials.
Reference to House Bill 154, passed in the 1997 Legislative Session: "If a student in any public elementary or secondary school has had head lice on three (3) consecutive occasions during one (1) year while attending school, or if the parent of the student has been notified by school officials that the student has had head lice on (3) consecutive occasions in one (1) school year, as determined by the school nurse, public health nurse or a physician, the principal or administrator shall notify the county health department of the recurring problem of head lice with that student."	
Scabies	The child may return to school as soon as treatment has been administered.
Whooping Cough	The student may return to school 5 days after treatment has begun.
Ringworm	The child may return to class when the treatment has been started.
Strep Throat	The child may return to class 24 hours after treatment has been started if free of fever.
Tuberculosis (TB)	Those who have a positive TB skin test only may attend school since they have no disease process that is contagious. Persons diagnosed with active TB disease will need written permission from the MS State Department of Health Tuberculosis Control Program to return to school.
Flu	The student may return to school when free of fever or feeling well.
Fifth Disease	Children with fifth disease may attend school, since by the time the rash begins they are no longer contagious.

This information is not intended to be used to **diagnose** an illness or infection. It should not replace a diagnosis by trained medical personnel.

For these or other communicable diseases, the principal may require a written note from the student's family doctor or public health department for a student to return to school after having a communicable or infectious disease.

SECTION II

An employee with a communicable disease should remain at home until the disease is no longer a threat to others. If any employee is absent more than five days, either consecutively or continuously, he/she shall submit a medical report or records that advise the Board of the reasons of said absence or sign authorization, if requested, to allow the administration or Board to review with medical personnel information about the illness or absence.

SECTION III

Decisions regarding a person infected with HIV, hepatitis B, or other blood-borne diseases shall be made on an individual basis with regard to the behavior, physical condition of the employee or student and the expected interactions with others in that setting. These decisions shall be made using the team approach, including the employee or student's physician, public health personnel, and personnel associated with the educational setting and/or workplace. In each case, risks and benefits to all affected shall be weighed. As conditions change, cases may be reevaluated.
