

Return to School Guidance for Respiratory Illnesses

| Disease / Illness: | How is it spread? | When can students return to school? | More information available here: |
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| COVID-19 | Highly contagious; contact with droplets or aerosols from the nose, eyes, or mouth of the infected person | <p>Return if for at least 24 hours,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your symptoms have improved overall, and 2. You have not had a fever (without using fever-reducing medication). <p>**If an individual experiences a fever or worsening of symptoms after resuming normal activities, they should stay home and avoid contact with others until meeting the conditions listed above.</p> | For more information visit our APS COVID-19 Updates + Alerts webpage: https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/covid |
| Influenza (the flu) | Highly contagious; contact with droplets from nose, eyes or mouth of infected person; virus can live on surfaces (toys, tissues, doorknobs) for several hours | <p>Return if for at least 24 hours,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your symptoms have improved overall, and • You have not had a fever (without using fever-reducing medication). | For more information visit: Webpage: https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/69098 |
| Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) | Highly contagious; contact with droplets from nose, eyes or mouth of infected person; virus can live on surfaces (toys, tissues, doorknobs) for several hours | <p>Return if for at least 24 hours,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your symptoms have improved overall, and • You have not had a fever (without using fever-reducing medication). | For more information visit: https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/index.html |
| Strep throat | Contact with droplets from nose and mouth; close crowded contact | May return if it's been, 12 - 24 hours after start of antibiotic treatment Symptoms have improved, and the student feels well enough to return. | For more information visit: https://www.cdc.gov/groupastrep/diseases-public/strep-throat.html |
| Whooping Cough (pertussis) | Contact with droplets from nose, eyes or mouth of infected person | After 5 days of appropriate antibiotic treatment; if untreated, 3 weeks after onset of cough | For more information visit: https://www.cdc.gov/pertussis/index.html |