

WELL CHILD and ILLNESS POLICY

Per Massachusetts state guidelines, students and staff must stay home if they feel sick, or have symptoms associated with COVID-19 including: **fever (100.0+), chills, shaking, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, muscle aches or body aches, new loss of taste or smell**, cough (not due to other known cause such as chronic cough), fatigue (when in combination with other symptoms), headache (when in combination with other symptoms), sore throat (when in combination with other symptoms), congestion or runny nose (when in combination with other symptoms), nausea or vomiting (when in combination with other symptoms), nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes such as allergies, and when in combination with other symptoms).

It is our desire at Holden Christian Academy to provide the healthiest possible environment for our students, so we kindly ask that you DO NOT bring your child to school if he or she has any of the following additional symptoms:

- Green or yellow runny nose
- Persistent coughing
- Discharge from the eyes
- Fever
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Unknown or contagious rash
- Any communicable disease

If a student has tested positive for Covid-19, he/she should quarantine at home for at least 5 days from the onset of their symptoms or their positive test. They may return to school on Day 6 if they have been fever-free for >24 hours, and have seen improvement in their symptoms. Students who return from Covid should wear a well-fitted mask through Day 10 (no mask is required if they test negative on Day 5).

If a student has been vomiting or had diarrhea, he/she should be sickness-free for at least 24 hours before returning to school. Children may not return to school until they are fever-free, off medication, for 24 hours. If your child has a sickness other than fever, please use discretion in returning them to school. After any illness we suggest a full 24 hours of health prior to returning to school, to prevent the spread of sickness.

If a student has a contagious illness such as conjunctivitis (pinkeye) or strep throat, he/she **must** be on antibiotics for a **full 24** hours before returning to school.

In the case of chickenpox, a student cannot return to school until all lesions are dried and scabbed over. This usually takes about 5 days; however, each case will vary.

Any student who becomes ill while at school will be sent home at the discretion of the staff. If the student has a temperature of 99.6 or above, he/she will be sent home.

When a student is absent or dismissed from school due to illness, he/she will not be allowed to participate in after school events and activities on that day.