



November 3, 2020

Dear Great Falls Public Schools Families,

It is the goal of the staff at Great Falls Public Schools to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for all children. Due to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in our community we would like to take this opportunity to remind you that this year we have specific illness screening protocols that we are following in an effort to reduce the number of COVID-19 cases in our school. If your child presents with signs or symptoms of illness please do not send them to school. If you have questions about your child's symptoms and if they require staying at home please call your child's school and ask to speak to the school nurse. Below is a quick reference of our 2020-2021 illness exclusion/inclusion criteria. You can find out more by visiting the GFPS School Nurse Website at <https://gfps.k12.mt.us/school-nursing-services/>.

Please keep your child home if they have:

***2 of any of these symptoms:* headache, bodyaches, fatigue, sore throat, congestion/runny nose, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea**

***OR 1 of these symptoms:* fever (temperature >100.4), chills new persistent cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell.**

If your child meets this exclusion criteria please keep them out of school until they meet at least one of the following criteria:

- A doctor's note stating they can return to school.
- A negative COVID-19 test. (Students who are tested for COVID-19 because they have symptoms should **NOT** return to school until the test has resulted).
- They have stayed out of school for 10 days from onset of symptoms.
- Note: if your child only has a fever and no other symptoms develop, they can return after fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Sincerely,

Great Falls Public School Nursing Department