

# School/Day Care Excuse

Dear Day Care/School Personnel:

I have evaluated \_\_\_\_\_ and have diagnosed him/her as having:\_\_\_\_\_.

This illness is caused by a virus. Antibiotic treatment will not cure a viral infection. Antibiotics are only effective in treating bacterial infections. In fact, antibiotics given when they are not needed may be harmful, and may increase the child's risk of a bacterial infection resistant to antibiotics.

This child may return to day care/school when he/she does not have a fever. At that time, most children can participate in activities and do not require so much care that the well-being of other children is a concern. Keeping a child home after the fever is gone does not stop the spread of the virus to other children. Viruses generally are spread before symptoms of illness occur.

Sincerely,

---