

POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR EXCLUDING ILL CHILDREN

Children with any of the following symptoms will not be permitted to remain in care at centers with programs not specifically approved for the care of ill children:

- **Fever** of at least 100 ° F under arm (axillary)
- diarrhea/vomiting
- earache
- signs of irritability or confusion
- sore throat
- rash
- fatigue that limits participation in daily activities

No rectal or ear temperatures will be taken. Digital thermometers are recommended due to concerns about mercury exposure if glass thermometers break. (Temperature strips are frequently inaccurate and will not be used). Oral temperatures may be taken for preschool through school age children if single use covers are used over the thermometer.

1. **Vomiting** on 2 or more occasions within the past 24 hours.
2. **Diarrhea:** 3 or more watery stools within a 24-hour period, or any bloody stool.
3. **Rash**, especially with fever or itching
4. **Eye discharge or conjunctivitis (pinkeye)** until clear or until 24 hours of antibiotic treatment.
5. **Sick appearance, not feeling well and/or not able to keep up with program activities.**
6. **Open or oozing sores**, unless properly covered **and** 24 hours has passed since starting antibiotic treatment, if treatment is necessary.
7. **Lice or scabies.** For head lice, children and staff may return to childcare after treatment and no nits. For scabies, return after treatment.

Following an illness or injury, children will be readmitted to the program when they no longer have the above symptoms, no longer have significant discomfort and Public Health exclusion guidelines for child care.

You must notify parent/guardian in writing, either by letter or posting notice in a visible location, when their children have been exposed to a communicable disease. *Contact your local child care health consultant for fact sheets and sample letters.*

Staff members will follow the same exclusion criteria as children.

Illness

Sickness occurs whenever a group of children assemble. Teachers disinfect and sanitize toys and surface areas regularly. However, we need your help too!

1. Watch your child in the morning for any unusual signs of poor health.
2. Have alternate arrangements for care arranged in case of illness.
3. Make arrangements for emergency pick-up in the event your child becomes ill during the day.
4. Have a medication release signed by you and in your child's file so it can be given in an emergency situation, until you arrive, or in other cases as necessary. We will always call you before administering any medication.

If your child exhibits any of the following symptoms they may be isolated and sent home:

1. Fever of 100 degrees or higher
2. Vomiting
3. Diarrhea (Three or more episodes for any reason)
4. Draining rash
5. Eye discharge or "pink eye"
6. Lice or nits
7. Lethargic – unable to function in class
8. Symptoms of possible communicable disease are present. Please call the center if your child does have a communicable disease and we will return the courtesy.
9. Fever of 100 degrees in conjunction with any of the above symptoms.

Children may return to school if:

1. The fever has been gone for 24 hours
2. On an antibiotic for 24 hours
3. With Physician's written permission; as long as it meets licensing standards.

Immunizations

All children must be immunized according to state regulations. Record of immunization is requested at the time of enrollment. Please notify the office when your child has additional immunizations.