

Health & Illness Policy

Hygiene & Prevention

A child should be kept home when any of the following symptoms occur:

- Pain-any complaints of unexplained or undiagnosed pain
- Common cold with listlessness, runny nose and eyes, coughing and sore throat
 - Once the child's temperature, well being and energy return to normal, the child is no longer considered contagious and may return back to daycare regardless if they continue to have a cough or runny nose
 - If the child's symptoms are due to an allergy such as asthma or hay fever, the child does not need to be excluded as they are not contagious
- Difficulty breathing-wheezing or a persistent cough
- Fever (100 degrees F/38.3 degrees C or more), sore throat or trouble swallowing
- Infected skin, discharge from eyes, or an undiagnosed rash
- Headache and stiff neck *should see physician)
- Unexplained diarrhea or loose stool in the last 24 hours (may or may not be combined with nausea, vomiting or stomach cramps).
- Nausea or vomiting 1 or more times in past 24 hours
- Severe itching, dry skin of either body or scalp if caused by head lice or scabies
- Children with known suspected communicable diseases

The child should be kept home until all symptoms have stopped

In summary, a child must be kept at home (or taken home) when the child

- Is suffering from one or more of the above symptoms, or:
- Is not well enough to take part in the regular programs of the facility

It is the parents' responsibility for the care of an ill child

- Up to date copies of the child's immunization records must be kept in the child's file. If a child is NOT immunized, a notice stating that must be provided for the child's file. In the case of a disease outbreak, the non-immunized child will be excluded immediately
- Emergency consent to contact Dr. or Ambulance will be kept on file
- Hygiene to prevent illness is a priority. Frequent washing of hands, washing of linens and storing them separately, and regular cleaning/disinfecting of toys/equipment will occur
- Parents can refer to the booklet "Common Childhood Diseases", for information on common infections in child care settings (see staff)

Managing Illness

- Notification of parents when their child is ill will be immediate. Parents can expect to pick up their children on short notice.
- The child will be placed in a quiet place away from others but where staff can still supervise until they are picked up.
- Before a child can return to daycare, they must be clear of all symptoms. If a child is on medication, they must be on the medication for at least a 24 hour period before returning to daycare. When a child has been sent home for fever they must be kept home for 24 hours before returning to daycare.
- Parents must report to staff within 24 hours of the child's diagnosis and if there has been exposure to a communicable disease or serious illness.
- The caregiver must notify the Licensing Officer of a Reportable Communicable Disease.

Medication Administration

Medications will be administered to children only when absolutely necessary.

- Parents must fill out an “Administration of Medication Consent Form” before any medication can be administered to a child. The form includes date, child’s name, Dr’s name and phone number, dosage and information about the medication. Parents must sign the form. Staff will document on the form the date, time and dosage of when the medication was administered.
- Medication must be provided in the original container and include directions for use or physicians instructions (NO OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS WILL BE ADMINISTERED UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY A DR’S NOTE STATING THE DOSE AND NAME OF MEDICATION)
- Medications are inaccessible to the children (except puffers)
- Puffers are given by parent’s request and must fill out a separate form “Asthma Care Plan” in addition to an “Administration of Medication Consent Form”. An updated photo of your child is also required.
- If a child has an allergy that requires emergency care (i.e. peanuts, insect stings etc.) and has an EPI PEN, parents are required to provide the center with a prescribed EPI PEN & must fill out a separate form “Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan” in addition to an “Administration of Medication Consent Form”. If Benadryl is also to be given in addition to an EPI PEN, you must provide a DR’s note stating the dose and name of medication. An updated photo of your child is also required. Parents are responsible to replace the expired puffer and EPI PEN. **The center will not accept children with allergy plans without a valid puffer and EPI PEN.**