

Health Policy

Our policy is set up to protect the children against the spread of illness. Hand washing is the best source of protection against illness. Each child must have an annual physical exam or obtain a statement of health condition and an up to date immunization record. Please keep the staff informed of any changes in your child's health and/or eating habits. (example: a child who develops an allergy, immunizations, etc.)

Children who are ill should not be brought to preschool. Children should be able to participate in daily activities, not compromise the health or safety of other children, or demand greater care than staff can provide. Alert the staff if your child has been exposed to a communicable disease. We do not have the staff or facilities to care for a child if they are too ill to participate in regular activities. Please remember if your child is too sick to go outside, they are too sick to be at the center. A child may not attend preschool or may be sent home if the following conditions exist:

- A. The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in the activities planned.
- B. The illness results in a greater care need than the staff can provide without compromising the health and safety of the other children.
- C. The child has any of the acute illnesses:
 - Fever (over 99.6 degrees), accompanied by behavior changes or signs or symptoms of illness until a medical professional determines the child able to return to preschool.
 - Symptoms or signs of possible severe illness such as unusual lethargy, uncontrolled coughing, inexplicable irritability or persistent crying, difficulty breathing, wheezing, or other unusual signs for the child.
 - Uncontrolled diarrhea
 - Blood in stools not explainable by dietary change, medication, or hard stools
 - Vomiting illness
 - Mouth sores with drooling, unless a health care professional determines the condition noninfectious
 - Rash with fever or behavior change

- Pink or red conjunctiva with white or yellow discharge until 24 hours after treatment
- Scabies, head lice, or other infestation until 24 hours after treatment
- Tuberculosis, until medically cleared by a physician
- Impetigo, until 24 hours after treatment
- Strep throat, or other streptococcal infection, until 24 hours after initial antibiotic treatment and cessation of fever
- Chickenpox, until 6 days after onset of rash or until all sores have dried and crusted
- Pertussis, until 5 days of appropriate antibiotic treatment has been completed
- Mumps, until 9 days after onset of parotid gland swelling
- Hepatitis A virus, until 1 week after onset of illness or as directed by the health department when passive immunoprophylaxis has been administered to appropriate children and staff
- Measles, until 6 days after onset of rash
- Rubella, until 6 days after onset of rash
- Unspecified respiratory tract illness

A child must be fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of a fever-reducing medicine) and must not have vomited or had diarrhea for 24 hours in order to attend school. If a child has been prescribed an antibiotic, the child must have the antibiotic in his/her system for a ***full 24 hours*** before attending. This includes ophthalmic antibiotics for conjunctivitis (pink eye). Also, a child may not be readmitted to school after an absence of 3 or more school days due to illness without a written statement from a physician that the child may return to a regular schedule

In the event of a communicable disease outbreak, such as COVID-19, strep throat or chickenpox, a note will be sent home with each child in his or her communication binder. If a child becomes ill while at the preschool, the parent will be notified. The child will be taken to a quiet area to rest until the parent can pick up. We request that children be picked up within the hour. If you cannot pick up your child, please notify someone on your emergency pick up list.