



### Child's Day Illness Exclusion Policy

The health of your child is of the utmost importance to us. CDC and Child Care Licensing requires that precautions be taken to safeguard the health of all children enrolled. This includes excluding children from attending with symptoms outlined below. **Please notify the school when your child is out sick and if a specific diagnosis is confirmed.** The school will notify families and staff about any illnesses.

Administrator or staff will ask parents at drop off how their child is feeling and if a child appears to be sick, it is also the Administrator or staff's responsibility to ask a parent to take a child back home if the child is deemed not well enough to be at school.

Teachers will also conduct health checks on each child during the day including temperature checks. Admin/staff will question parents about scrapes, bruises, etc. that are visible. Child's Day does not employ a school nurse; therefore, any first aid administered, or medication given will be done by the child's teacher or administrative personnel.

A child who becomes ill at school will be removed from their classroom and cared for in a separate space by one caregiver until their parents are able to promptly pick them up from school.

**In the event of illness (child or staff) at our center, the following policies and procedures must be followed:**

Symptom/Diagnosis	When Child will Be Sent Home or Excluded	When Child may Return
<b>Fever – No other COVID-19 symptoms</b>	If your child has a temperature of 100.0 or higher.	The child must be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication before returning to school.
<b>Respiratory Symptoms – No other COVID-19 symptoms</b>	If child exhibits difficult or rapid, shallow breathing or severe coughing, the child shall be excluded from the program. If the child makes high pitched croup or barking sounds after he/she coughs, and the child is unable to lie comfortably due to continuous cough, the child shall be excluded from the program.	When exclusion criteria are resolved or with a doctor's note stating the child is not contagious and the child can cope with the routine activities of the program.
<b>Cold Symptoms</b> Nasal Congestion Sneezing Watery eyes Cough <b>(also see COVID-19 information below)</b>	If accompanied by fever (see fever criteria above)	The child must be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication before returning to school or with a doctor's note stating the child is not contagious
<b>Diarrhea</b>	After 2 occurrences within a 24-hour period	When diarrhea subsides for 24 hours without medication or doctor's note stating child is not contagious
<b>Diaper Rash</b>	If sores are oozing and leak body fluid	When exclusion criteria are resolved
<b>Active Head Lice</b>	When live nits/eggs are present	When exclusion criteria are resolved and 24-hrs after first treatment

Symptom/Diagnosis	When Child will Be Sent Home or Excluded	When Child may Return
<b>Hand, Foot &amp; Mouth Syndrome</b>	When spots/bumps/lesions are noticed or present in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hands, feet &amp; mouth</li> <li>• Diaper area</li> <li>• Thigh/legs</li> </ul>	The child must be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication before returning to school. If lesions or spots are still present, the child must have a doctor's note stating when the child is no longer contagious.
<b>Irritability</b>	If irritability cannot be redirected and/or prevents child from being able to participate comfortably and safely	When child can participate comfortably in the routine activities of the program.
<b>Itching</b>	If itching is suspected to be caused by any of the following: Scabies, Impetigo, or Ringworm	When exclusion criteria are resolved or with a doctor's note stating the child is not contagious
<b>Appearance or Behavior Changes -Lethargy</b>	If the child looks or acts differently, is lethargic, pale, lacking appetite, confused, irritable, or difficult to awaken, the child should remain at home for further observation. If the child is not able to participate in the daily activities and routine of school, they should remain at home.	When exclusion criteria are resolved
<b>Mouth Sores</b>	When sores cause drooling	When exclusion criteria are resolved or with a doctor's note stating the child is not contagious.
<b>Eye Discharge</b> - Pink Eye (Conjunctivitis) - Allergies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thick mucus or pus from eyes</li> <li>• When discharge is noticed</li> <li>• Pinkish/red swollen or irritated eyes</li> </ul>	When exclusion criteria are resolved or with a doctor's note stating the child is not contagious and has taken medication for at least 24hrs
<b>Rash – Skin/Scalp</b>	When unidentified rash is noticed and is accompanied by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behavior change</li> <li>• Persistent itching</li> <li>• Fever</li> <li>• Has oozing/open wound/sores</li> <li>• Child is unable to participate</li> </ul>	When exclusion criteria are resolved or with a doctor's note stating the child is not contagious and return date
<b>Chicken Pox</b>	When lesions are noticed or present	When all lesions are dried and crusted. Typically takes 6+ days and doctor's return date
<b>Strep Throat</b>	If child has a positive strep culture	After at least 24 hours of antibiotic medicine and note with return date
<b>Vomiting</b>	After one occurrence within a 24-hour period. Gagging/minimal drool/spit-up due to excessive crying/anxiety does not constitute vomiting.	When vomiting subsides for 24 hours without medication and able to participate comfortably in the routine activities of the program.

Children who are sick must be taken home immediately or within one hour of being contacted as we do not have facilities to care for sick children. If neither parent can be reached, other persons listed on your enrollment forms will be called. It is especially important that all telephone numbers and information be kept current, in case we need to call you.

Your child's exclusion and readmission to the program is subject to review by their receiving classroom staff and/or a Director. If your child has a chronic illness or disability, please discuss a plan for reasonable admission/exclusion criteria with a Director.

# Covid-19 Policy

(Subject to change at any time)

## Positive (Child or Staff) – No Changes

- Stay home for at least 5 days. If symptoms improve and fever free for 24 hours may return beginning on Day 6 with a negative antigen test taken on or after Day 5. A mask must be worn for days 6 –10.
- If a mask cannot be worn effectively for days 6-10, substitute 2 consecutive negative tests on or after Day 5 spaced at least 24 hours apart.
- If no test is taken on or after Day 5, stay at home for a total of 10 days. May return after 10 days if fever free for 24 hours and symptoms have improved.
- PCR tests should not be used for ending isolation as they may be positive for weeks or months after a positive test.
- Day 0 is the first day of symptoms or the day of a positive test if asymptomatic.

## Close Contact (Immunized Child or Staff) at School or at Home

### **Fully Vaccinated/ Boosted/ COVID within last 90 days -- No Changes**

- No quarantine required. Wear a mask for 10 days if over age 2. Test on or after Day 5. If any symptoms develop, test before returning to school.

## Close Contact (Unvaccinated Child) at School

### **Unvaccinated Children who have not had COVID within the last 90 days**

- Child does NOT need to quarantine and may attend school with a negative test taken on Days 1 and 5 as long as they are asymptomatic.
- Children over age 2 should wear a non-cloth mask to the best of their ability for days 1 - 10
- Any type of test is acceptable.
- If no test is taken, stay home for 5 days.
- Day 0 is the day the individual last had close contact with an individual who was positive at the time of the contact or who started exhibiting symptoms within 48 hours after the contact and then tested positive.

**\*\*\* Child's Day reserves the right to require quarantine for unvaccinated children with a classroom close contact if there have been multiple confirmed cases within a classroom.\*\*\***

## Close Contact (Unvaccinated Child) at Home

- Stay home for at least 5 days. The child may return beginning on Day 6 with a negative test taken on or after Day 5 as long as they are asymptomatic. Children over age 2 should wear a non-cloth mask to the best of their ability for days 6 –10.
- If a mask cannot be worn effectively for Days 6-10, you'll need two consecutive negative tests on or after Day 5 before returning to school. The tests must be taken at least 24 hours apart. Any type of test is acceptable.
- If no test is taken, stay home for 10 days.
- Day 0 is the day the individual last had close contact with the household individual who was positive at the time of the contact or who started exhibiting symptoms within 48 hours after the contact and then tested positive.

## Masks

- Effective August 22, 2022, masks are optional while the Austin / Travis County community is in a Low or Medium risk threshold as defined by Austin Public Health. Should the area enter a High risk threshold, the masking requirement would go back in effect during that timeframe.
- During any stage, a high-quality mask must be worn for 10 days by those over age 2 for close contacts and after an individual has tested positive.

## **Child's Day Illness Reduction Policies and Procedures for Parents and Staff**

The following are the most updated CDC, licensing and local requirements for childcare centers caring for children. They are in place to protect the health and safety of our children, families, and staff. Please read the requirements carefully.

**Protecting the health of our teachers and the children in our care is our top priority. In order to help reduce illness in our school, the following procedures must be followed:**

1. Parents will drop off and pick up children at the classroom door. Parents are not allowed in the classroom.
2. Parents and staff will continue to wear masks while inside the building until an announcement is made otherwise.
3. Parents should take their child's temperature and evaluate their symptoms based on our updated illness policy BEFORE heading to school to make sure they are able to attend.
4. Temperatures and health checks will be taken before teachers or children enter the classroom at drop-off and throughout the day.
5. Adult and child hands should be washed throughout the day including each time a child or adult enters the classroom, after toileting/diaper changes, before eating, after wiping noses, when returning from outside, and after group play activities.
6. Our routine illness and COVID-19 policies remain fully in effect. Please keep your child home if they are sick.
7. All areas of children's play will be properly sanitized as needed, mid-day and at the end of the day.
8. All children's toys will be properly sanitized daily. Toys that come into contact with children's mouths will be placed in designated container to be properly sanitized.
9. Home toys will not be allowed to support health and safety policies; comfort items/lovies are okay.
10. We will not do warmups at this time to avoid handling of foods for health and safety practices. Parents may want to consider using thermos to keep lunch warm.
11. All children should bring 2-3 changes of clothes in Ziplock bags that are labeled with child's name to be used when needed.
12. All bottles, bottle caps, sippy cups, and water bottles from home used for feeding or drinks should be labeled with child's name.