



## Child's Day Illness Exclusion Policy

The health of your child is of the utmost importance to us. Child's Day 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, which may include 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. Children who are sick must be taken home 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.

### In the event of illness, the following policies and procedures must be followed:

Symptom/Diagnosis	When Child will Be Sent Home or Excluded	When Child may Return
<b>Fever</b>	Has a tympanic (ear) temperature, or for infants under six months old, an axillary (armpit) temperature, of 100 degrees or higher OR has had a fever of 100 degrees or higher during the previous 24 hours.	The child must be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication before returning to school. The child must be well enough to comfortably participate in a group care setting.
<b>Respiratory 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 group care.
<b>Cold Symptoms</b> Nasal Congestion Sneezing Watery eyes Cough	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. The child must be well enough to comfortably participate in a group care setting.

Symptom/Diagnosis	When Child will Be Sent Home or Excluded	When Child may Return
<b>COVID-19</b>	Child tests positive for COVID-19	The child must be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication before returning to school. The child must be well enough to comfortably participate in a group care setting.
<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 after first treatment is complete
<b>Hand, Foot &amp; Mouth Disease</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>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, Irritability</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 comfortably and safely, they should remain at home.	When child can participate comfortably in the routine activities of the program.
<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	Thick mucus or pus from eyes  When discharge is noticed  Pinkish/red swollen or irritated eyes	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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When lesions are noticed or present</li> </ul>	When all lesions are dried and crusted. Typically takes 6+ days and doctor's return date

Symptom/Diagnosis	When Child will Be Sent Home or Excluded	When Child may Return
<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.

For illnesses not specifically listed above, please refer to the Texas Department of Health and Human Services [School Communicable Disease Chart](#).

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.

The school will make efforts to notify your child's classmates of any illness in the classroom.

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

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 should drop off and pick up children at the classroom door.
2. Parents should evaluate their child's health and any symptoms BEFORE heading to school daily to make sure they are able to attend.
3. Health checks will be taken before teachers or children enter the classroom at drop-off and throughout the day, which may include temperature checks.
4. 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.
5. Please refer to the illness exclusion policy and keep your child at home if they are sick. This is the best way to prevent the spread of illness in a group setting.
6. All areas of children's play will be properly sanitized as needed, mid-day and at the end of the day.
7. All children's toys will be properly sanitized daily. Toys that come into contact with children's mouths will be placed in a designated container to be properly sanitized.
8. Home toys will not be allowed to support health and safety policies; comfort items/lovies are okay.
9. Teachers do not warm up food to reduce food handling. Parents may want to consider using a thermos to keep lunch warm.
10. All children should bring 2-3 changes of clothes in Ziplock bags that are labeled with child's name to be used when needed.
11. All bottles, bottle caps, sippy cups, and water bottles from home used for feeding or drinks should be labeled with child's name.