

St. Michael's Preschool Illness Policy

It is inevitable that children get sick. Toddler and pre-school aged children have the highest incidences of communicable disease. Making the decision that a child is too sick to attend school can be a complex one. These guidelines will let you know what our considerations will be if we need to determine whether or not your child will be able to attend school or if the child needs to leave school due to illness during the day.

We feel that careful examination of these rules will prevent the spread of illness and will help reduce the severity of those illnesses which cannot be entirely prevented. These guidelines are for the protection of your child's health.

Exclusion from school

1. Your child will be **UNABLE TO ATTEND SCHOOL** if they have any of the following symptoms **WITHIN THE LAST 24 HOURS: Fever, vomiting, unidentified rash, diarrhea, lethargy, head lice or nits, excessive cold or allergy symptoms.**
2. If your child is prescribed antibiotics for an illness, they must have taken the correct dose for a full 24 hours before returning to school; unless they have a doctor's note stating it is ok for the child to attend school and *if and only if* the illness is not contagious or infectious.

Sending a child home

We will use the following criteria to determine if it is necessary to have you pick up your child during the day and to maintain a safe environment for all our children:

- *Diarrhea one time accompanied by a fever of 100.4
- *Diarrhea two times in one day even without a fever of 100.4
- *Vomiting one time accompanied by a fever of 100.4
- *Vomiting two times in one day even without a fever of 100.4
- *Runny nose, cough and fever of 100.4
- *Rash (not including heat or food allergy)
- *Head Lice or Nits

If your child has a fever or symptoms of an illness not stated above (lethargy, pale, flushed, stomach pains, etc.) the staff will contact you and discuss whether or not your child needs to go home.

Remember that the center has to consider not only the individual child, but the health of other children in our care.

Dispensing Medication

If your child needs to be given any medication during center hours, we are required by California State Law to have on file the following: Directions of use, written permission from the prescribing physician (a prescription labeled bottle is ok), written permission from the parent or guardian. To be allowed to distribute medication to your child on our site, we must have a copy or the original prescription from the medical health provider that prescribe the prescription.

This includes all inhalers, and epi- pens.

No medication will be given to a child at school without a physician’s written permission. No over the counter medicine will be given.

Storing Medication:

All medicine is stored on top of or inside the refrigerator, and is to be signed off in our medication log with medication dosage, time of dosage, dates need to be given, and a parent or guardian signature as well as a staff member’s acceptance of the medication.

When a child is sick at school:

1. If you suspect a child is not feeling well, assess the situation. Notify the director of your concern.
2. If the child is warm, take temperature. If over 100.4 parents must be notified, and child sent home.
3. If child has fever over 100.4, remove child from classroom and have him/her lay down on a mat. Give the child water and a cold cloth if necessary. Supervision is a must with this child
4. If the child is throwing up, get gloves immediately if possible. Help the child with the process. Ask for assistance if needed.
5. If the child is lethargic, allow the child lay down and assess the child. If the child is lethargic over a long period of time, give the parents a curiosity call.

I _____, have read and understand this policy.

Parent signature _____ date: _____