

## Valley Interfaith Child Care Center: INFECTION CONTROL POLICY

Children will get sick. To help minimize the sharing of germs, regular and careful hand washing of staff and children will be practiced. To keep the spread of illness to a minimum, we require the following policy for the exclusion of children showing symptoms of communicable illnesses:

1. A fever of 101.0° Fahrenheit or higher will require exclusion from the program until the fever has been gone for 24-hours without the assistance of any medication containing a fever reducer such as Tylenol (acetaminophen) or Advil (ibuprofen). At the center, we use digital thermometers to take a child's temperature under their arm, and we will take the temperature three times to help ensure accuracy.
2. Any incidences of diarrhea occurring twice or more in a one-hour period will require exclusion from the program until all diarrhea is gone for a 24-hour period.
3. A single occurrence of vomiting (at home or at the center) will require exclusion from the program until the child is vomit free for 24-hours.
4. Any unidentified skin irritation or rash will need to be checked by a physician before the child can return to the program. We will then follow the instructions of the physician.
5. With chicken pox, your child may not return to the program until all pox have dried and no new pox have erupted (usually 7 to 10 days). This policy also applies to mild cases that may occur from the vaccine.
6. Any child diagnosed with a bacterial infection that is deemed contagious by a physician, including but not limited to strep throat, bronchitis, pneumonia, etc., will need to be on an antibiotic for at least 24-hours, or any other directions given in writing by the child's physician, before returning to the program.
7. If a child has a fever due to an ear infection, teething, or immunizations, and has a written note from the physician stating the child can return to child care, only then can a fever reducer/pain medication be administered. Fever reducer/pain medication will not be administered in any other situation!
8. Any suspected cases of pink eye/conjunctivitis must be seen by a physician and treated accordingly before the child can return to the program.
9. Head lice frequently occur in group-care settings. To help limit the transfer of lice, we require that any infected child must be excluded from the program until they have had one medicated shampoo and are found to be "nit" free by a staff member. To make sure the lice infestation does not return, make sure to follow all instructions provided by the program at the time the lice are detected.

If your child will be staying home due to any of the above listed conditions, please notify someone at your child's center so our staff will be alerted to the possible spread of the illness.

State regulations require that families notify the center within 24 hours or the next business day after their child or any member of the immediate household has developed any communicable disease, as defined by the State Board of Health. The exception is in the instance of life threatening diseases, which must be reported immediately.

If any of the above listed conditions/symptoms arise while your child is at VICCC, we will remove the child from the classroom until you are able to arrange to pick up your sick child. You are responsible for picking up your sick child as soon as possible once VICCC has notified you of the potential illness.

---

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date

---

Staff Signature

Date