

Illness Policy

Our Child Illness Policy is based on the Model Health Care Policies developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and is accordance with licensing regulations.

Angel's Nest Child Development Center understands that it is difficult for a parent/guardian to leave or miss work; therefore it is suggested that alternative arrangements be made for occasions when children must remain at home or be picked up due to illness. Exclusion from the center is sometimes necessary to reduce the transmission of illness or because the center is not able to adequately meet the needs of the child.

Children should be excluded from the child care setting for the following reasons (this list covers most common illnesses, but is not inclusive of all reasons for exclusion):

- Illness that prevents the child from participating comfortably in program activities.
- Illness that results in greater need for care than our faculty can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children.
- Fever (100° axillary, 101° orally, 102° aural (ear)) accompanied by other symptoms, i.e., lethargy, irritability, constant crying, difficulty breathing, diarrhea, vomiting.
- Diarrhea- stools with blood or mucus, and/or uncontrolled, unformed stools that cannot be contained in a diaper/underwear or toilet.
- Vomiting- green or bloody, and/or 2 or more times during the previous 24 hours.
- Mouth sores associated with drooling.
- Rash with fever or behavioral changes, unless a physician has determined it is not a communicable disease.
- Purulent conjunctivitis (defined as pink or red conjunctiva with white or yellow eye discharge) until on antibiotics for 24 hours.
- Impetigo until 24 hours after treatment.
- Strep throat until 24 hours after treatment
- Head lice until after treatment and all nits are removed
- Scabies until 24 hours after treatment has begun
- Chickenpox, until all lesions have dried and crusted (usually 6 days)
- Pertussis (Whooping cough) until 5 days of appropriate antibiotics.
- Hepatitis A virus until 1 week after onset of illness, after immune globulin has been administered.

We ask that for your child's comfort and to reduce the risk of contagion, children be picked up within 1 hour of notification. **Children need to remain home for 24 hours without symptoms before returning to the program.** In the case of a (suspected) contagious disease or continuing symptoms, a doctor's note may be required before returning.

Children who have been excluded may return:

- When they are free of fever, vomiting, and diarrhea for a full 24 hours.
- When they have been treated with an antibiotic for a full 24 hours.
- When they are able to participate comfortably in **all** usual program activities, including outdoor time.
- The child must be free of open, oozing, skin conditions and drooling (not related to teething) unless
 - A health-care provider signs a note stating that the child's condition is not contagious, and
 - The involved areas can be covered by a bandage without seepage of drainage through the bandage.

If a child is excluded because of a reportable communicable disease, a doctor's note stating that the child is no longer contagious and may return is required.

The final decision whether to exclude a child from the program will be made by Angel's Nest Child Development Center.

Medication

All medication to be given at the center must be in the original container. Non-prescription drugs must be accompanied by a physician's note and directions for administering. No medication will be given without a completed Authorization for Administration of Medication Form filled out by the parent or guardian. Each medication must have a separate form, dated and signed. Dosages and time to be given must be specified, and cannot be changed unless a new form is filled out. All forms must include physician's name and phone number. All medication must be given to a faculty member and taken home at the end of each day. Medication can be administered by the faculty only. Prior to any medication being given, the child's temperature will be taken to ensure there is no fever.

Injury Occurrences

In the event that your child sustains an injury, you will receive an occurrence report outlining the incident and course of action taken by the faculty member. You will be contacted immediately if the injury produces any type of swelling or needs medical attention.

For more serious injuries, you will be contacted by telephone as soon as possible. Center management or a faculty member will continue to call you or your emergency contacts until someone is reached. However, whether or not you are contacted, the child will still be taken to the hospital by ambulance in the event of a serious medical emergency.