



Health and Illness Policy

As working parents ourselves, we understand that being away from our jobs for any length or time can be troublesome. Illness can be spread in a variety of ways, and infect people differently. In order to reduce illnesses in our school, we follow the National Health and Safety Performance Standards set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Based on their recommendations we educate our children on the importance of washing hands with soap, before and after diapering/toileting, after wiping noses, before and after mealtimes, and following craft activities, just to name a few.

Secondly, we are constantly washing down tables, toys, sinks, and play stations, where by which we use a "Bleach Solution" (1/4 cup Bleach to 1 gallon of water, made fresh daily).

Health Appraisals

We are licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare as well as the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The requirements for Health Appraisals are as follows:

- Within 30 days of enrollment
- Under 24 months we need completed Health Appraisals every 1,3,4,6,9,12, 15,18 and 24 months.
- One Health Appraisal every year after you child's second birthday.

We require notification from your child's doctor, if there is a delay in your child's immunizations. The Department of Health requires that all children over the age of 15 months must have the MMR vaccine as a condition for attendance in our school.

Illness Policy

Illness is an ongoing issue in all group settings. While we do our best to control contagions, we realize, there may be times when your child needs to be excluded from other children. Therefore, we have adopted the guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics as well as the U.S. National Health and Safety Performance Standards.



For the protection of all children and staff, your child should be kept at home or will be sent home if they display any combination of the following symptoms:

- When an illness prevents your child from participating comfortably in activities determined by your child's teaching team.
- When an illness results in a greater need for care than the teacher's can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children in their room.
- A temperature above 101 degrees – your child must be fever free (without Tylenol) for 24 hours prior to returning to school.
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea, that is not associated with changes in diet, or is not contained by the child's ability to use the toilet.
- Lethargy that is more than expected tiredness.
- Uncontrolled coughing
- Difficulty with breathing
- Inexplicable irritability or persistent crying
- Red Watery Eyes

Please remember, that we are not limited to these symptoms. If your child is really not feeling well, you may be called, and we may request that your child be seen by your Pediatrician or Health Care Professional, before returning to school.

Contagious Illnesses: Parents should keep their children at home if there is suspicion of contagious illness. Please notify us, if your child is diagnosed with a contagious illness. We require you child to remain home during the first 24 hours of treatment on an antibiotic. So, please do not bring them back to school until the 24 hours has gone by for the following.

- Strep Throat
- Viral Infections
- Mumps and Measles
- Chicken Pox
- Conjunctivitis/Pink Eye
- Lice
- Impetigo

Please consult your Health Care Professional for permission for inclusion. However, your child's teaching team reserves the right to make the decision as to whether or not your child meets the criteria for participation relative to the staff's ability to provide care under these conditions.



Medications

When it is necessary for your child to receive medication, we encourage you to attempt a medication dispensing schedule that does not include school. However, we understand that this is not always doable. Therefore, we have specific guidelines that need to be followed.

- Medication must be in original container
- Medication must be accompanied with medical permission from your Health Care Professional, with signature, and correct dosage instructions.
- Non-Prescription medication (Tylenol, cough syrup, etc) cannot be given to your child without a Health Care Professional's written consent. It must be in it's original container, with your child's name written on the label, and with correct dosage requirements.

Please note, we will be unable to administer any medications if these procedures are not followed correctly!