



Illness Policy

A child must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to the Center. Please do NOT administer a fever-suppressant and bring your child to the Center. This is unfair not only to your child but also the other children and teachers.

Listed below are criteria for EXCLUDING ill or infected children from the Center:

FEVER, defined by the child's age as follows:

Infants younger than 4 months 100F axillary

5-24-month old's 101F axillary

25 months and older 102F axillary or oral

- Uncontrolled Diarrhea defined as an increased number of stools compared with the child's normal pattern, with increased stool water and/or decreased form that is not contained by the diaper or toilet use.
- Vomiting, two or more times in the previous 24 hours unless the vomiting is determined to be due to a non-communicable condition and the child is not in danger of dehydration.
- Mouth Sores, with drooling unless the child's physician has determined the illness not to be a communicable disease.
- Rash, with fever or behavior change until a physician has determined the illness not be a communicable disease.
- Purulent Conjunctivitis, defined as pink or red conjunctiva with white or yellow eye discharge, often with matted eyelids after sleep, including a child with eye pain or redness of the eyelids or skin surrounding the eye.
- Infestation (e.g., scabies, head lice), until 24 hours after treatment was begun.
Impetigo can return 24 hours after treatment was begun.
- Streptococcal Pharyngitis, until 24 hours after treatment was begun and until the child has been fever-free for 24 hours.
- Pinworm can return 24 hours after treatment was begun.
- Ringworm can return 24 hours after treatment was begun.

- Chicken Pox, until 6 days after onset of rash or until all lesions have dried and crusted.
- Rubella can return 7 days after the rash appears¹.

If your child becomes ill while at the Center, you or an authorized person will be called to pick-up your child within the hour of the call. You will be notified should your child be exposed to a contagious disease while at the Center. Please notify the Center should your child become ill so that we may notify other parents of a contagious disease. A child who is discovered at TenderCare with a sore throat, pink eye, fever, lice, ringworm, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, or other conditions having the potential to affect the health of other children or staff will be isolated. The child will be provided with a cot in an area within sight and sound of a staff member.

Keeping the child home will prevent the spread of the illness. A note stating the reason for the absence must accompany the child upon return to school. A child who has had a communicable disease must have a note from a doctor stating the child may return to TenderCare.

¹ SOURCE: American Academy of Pediatrics/American Public Health Assoc. Reference Standard (1990) in NAEYC's Healthy Young Children