



BrightStart Children's Academy Ltd.

Early Learning & Child Care Infant – 12 yrs

Illness Policy

Policy:

Children who are ill are unable to take an active part in our daily program and they are at risk of “catching” something else when their resistance is low. They also expose other children and staff to illnesses. As a community provider of childcare, our illness policy was developed with input from the Public Health Nurse.

Procedure:

A. **Parents/guardians** are asked to keep their children at home when experiencing any of the following symptoms within the last 24 hours:

- Fever over 38° Celsius (100.4° Fahrenheit)
- Repeated diarrhea, vomiting or upset stomach (repeated is defined two times or more)
- sore throat or difficulty swallowing
- ear ache, rash (draining or open sore)
- show signs of irritability, fatigue or confusion
- cold with fever, running nose or eyes, cough or sore throat
- difficulty in breathing or persistent cough
- sticky eye discharge



B. **A child can return under these criteria:**

1. **Vomiting/Diarrhea/Fever** – children must be symptom free (without the aid of medication) for at least 24 hours before returning to the centre.
2. **Eye discharge (Conjunctivitis, also known as Pinkeye).** If bacterial, children/staff members are welcome back after 24 hours on antibiotic treatment. If viral or other irritant, child/staff may return after seeing their health care provider.
3. **Open Sores:** Children/staff members with open, oozing sores will not be allowed to return until sores are properly covered (or healed) and, if taking antibiotics, 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment.
4. **Lice and Scabies:** Children/staff members are welcome back after treatment and if no nits are visible. If white nits are still visible, a child/staff member will be welcomed back with a doctor's note stating they are clear of live eggs/bugs and can come back to daycare/school.

C. **Teachers:**

- are required to screen children for illnesses upon their arrival
- if a child has one bout of diarrhea or vomiting, the parent will be notified. After two bouts, the parent will be asked to pick their child up
- if a child becomes sick while already in the classroom, parents shall be notified to pick up their child as soon as possible
- if a teacher cannot contact the parents for whatever reason, contact the emergency contact list
- children will be kept as comfortable as possible until a parent or other designated person arrives.

Refer to our website under “Resources” for more information regarding Common Childhood Diseases.

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