

Illness Guidelines

Occasionally a child will become sick while at the Child Care Center. When this occurs, every effort is made to isolate that child from the others so that the virus or infection does not spread. Please help us in preventing the spread of illness throughout the Center by adhering to the following guidelines:

1. According to DCFS and IDPH, a child will be sent home from the Center when any of the following occur:
 - A. **fever of 101 degrees or higher**
 - B. **2 incidences of vomiting**
 - C. **2 loose bowel movements (infectious)**
 - D. **All other symptoms as outlined in *DCFS Licensing Standards for Day Care Centers – Section 407.310***
2. When a sick child is sent home from the Center, the child may not return to the Center for at least **36 hours**. This means that the child may **not** return to the Center the following day.
3. If a child has experienced vomiting, diarrhea, or high fever on the day before he/she is scheduled to be at the Center, please keep the child home an extra day. **Do not** bring the child back to school as soon as the child “appears” to be well. Children are still considered contagious for 36 hours after onset of symptoms.
4. As a rule of thumb in deciding whether or not to send your child to school, ask yourself “would I want my child to be in the company of another who is as ill as mine is today?”

It is imperative that each parent makes sound decisions with regard to the health of their own children. **It is also crucial that parents share with staff members any signs or symptoms of illness they may have noticed in their children. This helps staff members monitor the children as well.** In this way, we hope to prevent the spread of infections and viruses at the Child Care Center. Please be considerate of others, especially the parents of very young children.