

Community Action Team

**Child & Family Development Programs**

Policy and Procedure for Excluding Ill Children

**When staff are deciding whether to keep a child in the classroom or to send the child home, three important things to think about are:**

1. Does the child's illness keep him/her from comfortably taking part in activities?
2. Does the sick child need more care than the staff can give without affecting the health and safety of other children?
3. Could other children get sick from being in contact with this child?

Communicable disease and other exclusion incidents will be noted in child's file. Staff members follow the same exclusion criteria as children. Food prep staff may have additional criteria

Children with any of the below symptoms/conditions are separated from the group in a location where the child can be seen and heard by staff. The location will be equipped with a cot, mat, or bed for each sick child. Parent/guardian or emergency contact is notified to pick up child.

Parent/guardian will not send their child to school with any of the following symptoms/conditions.

**Children with any of the following symptoms are not permitted to attend or remain in class:**

- Sick appearance, not feeling well, and/or not able to keep up with program activities and/or temperature of over 100.4 degrees.
- A child, regardless of temperature, who is acting lethargic, unable to participate and this is abnormal for that child, will be sent home.
- Fever over 100.4° F
- Diarrhea (more than one abnormally loose, runny, watery or bloody stool)
- Vomiting
- Nausea
- Severe cough
- Unusual yellow color to skin or eyes
- Skin or eye lesions or rashes that are severe, weeping, or pus-filled
- Stiff neck and headache with one or more of the symptoms listed above
- Difficult breathing or abnormal wheezing
- Complaints of severe pain
- Symptoms and signs of possible severe illness, including:
  - Sluggishness that is more than expected tiredness
  - Uncontrolled coughing
  - Inexplicable irritability or persistent crying
  - Difficult breathing
  - Severe wheezing
  - Other unusual signs for the child

- **Open or oozing sores**, unless properly covered **and** 24 hours have passed since starting antibiotic treatment, if antibiotic treatment is necessary.
- **Head Lice**: If a child has live lice or excessive nits (more than a dozen), the family will be contacted to pick up their child and begin treatment. Staff will provide families with resources to support successful lice treatment. A child can return to the program after treatment has begun and form 3-18a has been completed and reviewed by staff. (See policy 3-18 for procedures)
- **Scabies**: 24 hours after treatment is begun.
- **Vaccine Preventable Communicable Diseases**: If a child is diagnosed with a vaccine preventable illness, the program will follow the Oregon Health Authority rules for exclusion of the child and any child not immunized against the disease. The program will post for the parents of all children who attend the facility.

Following exclusion, children are readmitted to the program 48 hours after they no longer have any of the above symptoms, (without the use of fever reducing medication) OR with a release from a health care provider and/or Public Health exclusion guidelines for early childhood programs are met.

These policies reflect AAP standards, Oregon Early Learning Division Child Care rules, Oregon Health Authority rules, and Healthy Child Care America Guidelines.