



THE CHILDREN'S CENTRE

at Duncan Elementary

Communicable Disease Policy

We take the health and safety of our children and staff seriously. Therefore, we have implemented a communicable disease policy to reduce the spread of illness in our facility. Most common diseases within a childcare are listed below, and since each disease is different, a child's recovery is different, therefore please contact your health provider, 811, and your manager for further clarification.

Influenza (flu)

Common cold

Gastrointestinal infections (such as norovirus or rotavirus)

Hand, foot, and mouth disease (HFMD)

Conjunctivitis (pink eye)

Chickenpox (varicella)

Measles

Mumps

Pertussis (whooping cough)

Tuberculosis (TB)

Covid and other variants

Illness Reporting: If your child becomes ill prior to attending, notify us by phone, email, or Brightwheel App. This can include, but limited to, symptoms such as:

1. Fever, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, cough, or other symptoms of illness, running nose that is not clear mucous(green), they must stay home until they are symptom-free for at least 24-48 hours.

2. Foot and mouth disease (HFMD) is a highly contagious viral illness that commonly affects young children. The symptoms of HFMD include fever, sore throat, loss of appetite, skin rash, painful blisters or sores in the mouth, on the hands, feet, and buttocks.
3. Pink eye, also known as conjunctivitis, is a common infection that can affect one or both eyes. It can be caused by bacteria, viruses, or allergies. The symptoms of pink eye may include:
 - *Redness or swelling of the white part of the eye or inside the eyelids
 - *Excessive tearing or discharge from the eye, which may be yellow, green, or white in color
 - *Itchy or burning sensation in the eyes
 - *Blurred vision or sensitivity to light

Exclusion Policy: If your child has a contagious disease such as chickenpox, strep throat, pink eye, or hand foot and mouth, they must stay home until they have no open lesions, and no green or yellow mucous. We follow the guidelines set by the Public Health Agency of Canada regarding the exclusion of children with infectious diseases. If you have any questions or concerns about when your child can return, please consult your healthcare provider or childcare provider for guidance as each illness has criteria that needs to be overcome prior to returning. If the parent does not take the advice of a doctor or childcare provider and attempts to return ill child to care while still showing signs of being contagious, then this could result in being withdrawn for the day, and potentially the child could be withdrawn from our program in its entirety.

Immunizations: All children must be up-to-date on their immunizations before attending our facility. Please provide us with a copy of your child's immunization record before their first day of attendance.

Handwashing: We encourage frequent handwashing among children and staff to prevent the spread of germs. We will be reminding children to cover their coughs and sneezes with a tissue or their elbow to prevent the spread of germs. At home please ensure your child washes their hands, with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, before eating, after using the bathroom, and after sneezing or coughing .

Cleaning and Disinfecting: We have established cleaning and disinfecting protocols to maintain a clean and healthy environment for our children and staff. We use products that are approved by Health Canada and recommended by the Public Health Agency of Canada for use against COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. Please support our efforts by keeping your child's personal items, such as toys and blankets, clean and free of germs.

By working together and following these guidelines, we can ensure a safe and healthy environment for all children under our care. If you have any questions or concerns about our communicable disease policy, please do not hesitate to contact us.