

# Sick Child Guidelines

At Hugs-N-Hearts, we work hard to prevent your child from contracting illnesses while here at the center. Our staff is trained in recognition, prevention, and management of communicable diseases, and our classrooms and equipment are cleaned and sanitized on a regular schedule. Each child is observed as they enter the center for signs of communicable disease.

Please help us to help your child remain healthy while attending Hugs-N-Hearts by following these guidelines.

## DO NOT send your child to school:

- With a temperature of 100 degrees or more.
- If there has been any temperature elevation in the last 24 hours.
- With excessive coughing, sneezing, extremely sore throat, or runny nose - with or without a fever.
- If your child has vomited in the last 24 hours.
- If your child has had more than 2 abnormally loose stools (diarrhea) in the last 24 hours.
- With a rash accompanied by illness.
- If your child is demonstrating signs of Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye).
- With evidence of lice, scabies, or other parasitic infections.
- Until 24 hours of a prescribed antibiotic has been administered.
- If your child is just not feeling well enough to participate in the normal daily activities of the class.
- If your child has been diagnosed with COVID-19. \*\*Please follow all quarantine and isolation recommendations as directed by Columbus Public Health.

If your child becomes ill while at the center, the policies here and in the parent handbook will be adhered to. If we feel it necessary for your child to be dismissed early due to illness, PLEASE make every attempt to have your child picked-up as soon as possible. **Your child MUST be symptom free (without fever-reducing medication) for 24 hours before returning to Hugs-N-Hearts.** It is advisable to have a designated person in mind for childcare in the event of an extended viral illness. This affords the child a fever/symptom free day prior to returning to school. Many times, children will be without a fever during the early morning hours and will develop a temperature later in the day if they are not permitted a fever free day at home.

We understand that taking time off work to remain home with an ill child is difficult for many parents. However, bringing a sick child to school creates an environment in which more germs are present to infect not only your child, but **all of the children and our teachers!** We strive to keep the number of ill children which our teachers are exposed to a minimum. Keeping each teacher healthy will provide your classroom the consistency on which your child thrives.

Please be sure that the emergency contact information on file is current, in the event that we need to contact you during the day.

Thank You,

Miss Pam

Owner/Director Hugs-n-Hearts ELC