

LITTLE BLUE TOTS DAYCARE: DAYCARE ILLNESS POLICY

Little Blue Tots Daycare maintains an illness policy to help provide a safe and healthy environment for children, families, and staff. Families are expected to follow the guidelines below to help reduce the spread of illness within the program.

Illness Exclusion

Children must remain home or will be sent home if they have:

- A fever of **100°F or higher**
- Vomiting
- Two or more loose or watery stools in one day
- Stool containing blood or mucus
- Eye discharge or redness
- Persistent cough, sore throat, or unusual fatigue
- Difficulty participating comfortably in normal daily activities
- Symptoms of a contagious illness

If a child requires additional rest, individual care beyond what can reasonably be provided in the group setting or is unable to participate in the regular daily routine, the child should remain home.

Children must be symptom-free for at least **24 hours without medication** before returning to care, unless otherwise approved by the Program Director.

Illness During Care

If symptoms develop during the day, the child will be separated from the group and made comfortable while awaiting pickup.

Parents/guardians will be contacted and are expected to arrange prompt pickup.

If a parent/guardian cannot be reached within 30 minutes, the child's emergency contacts will be notified.

Parents who keep their child home due to illness must notify the Program Director no later than **8:00 a.m.**

Tuition remains due during illness-related absences.

Fever

- Children with a temperature of **100°F or higher** will be sent home.
- A child with a temperature below 100°F may also be sent home when accompanied by other symptoms or when the child is unable to participate comfortably in daily activities.
- Children must be fever-free for at least **24 hours without fever-reducing medication** before returning to care.

Vomiting

- Children will be sent home after one episode of vomiting.
- Children must remain home until they have been symptom-free for at least **24 hours without medication**.

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Diarrhea

- Children will be sent home after two loose or watery bowel movements in one day.
- Children will also be sent home if blood or mucus is visible in the stool.
- Children must remain home until they have been symptom-free for at least **24 hours without medication.**

Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease (HFMD)

A doctor's note is required if a child is diagnosed with Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease.

If symptoms such as rash, blisters, mouth sores, fever, or excessive drooling appear, the child must be picked up and may be required to provide a doctor's note before returning.

Families must notify the Program Director if HFMD is diagnosed within the household.

The Program Director may require a child to remain out of care, even with a doctor's note, if symptoms are still visible or the child is not well enough to participate in daily activities.

Administration of Medication

Little Blue Tots Daycare does not administer medication unless it is lifesaving or required for an emergency medical condition.

Emergency medications may include:

- EpiPen
- Inhaler
- Physician-directed emergency medications

Required medical documentation and medication instructions must be provided before emergency medication can be administered.

A child who requires non-emergency medication or medication to comfortably participate in the daycare day must remain home under parental supervision.

Acknowledgment

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to comply with the Little Blue Tots Daycare Illness Policy.

Child's Name: _____

Parent Name (Print)

Parent Name (Print)

Parent Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Date