



FAMILY LINKS EARLY LEARNING CHILDCARE CENTER

Childcare Sick Policy



Purpose

The health and safety of all children, families, and staff are of the utmost importance. To prevent the spread of illness, Family Links Early Learning Childcare Center follows the guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the local health department. This policy ensures a safe and healthy environment for all children and staff.

When to Keep Your Child Home

Parents/guardians must keep their child home if they exhibit any of the following symptoms:

- Fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher within the past 24 hours
- Vomiting or diarrhea within the past 24 hours
- Persistent coughing or difficulty breathing
- Unexplained rash or skin infection
- Red or discharging eyes (possible conjunctivitis/pink eye)
- Thick, green nasal discharge
- Sore throat accompanied by fever or swollen glands
- Any contagious illness such as COVID-19, influenza, strep throat, chickenpox, RSV, or hand-foot-mouth disease

Children must remain at home until they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

If a Child Becomes Ill at the Center

If a child develops symptoms of illness while in care, the following steps will be taken:

1. The child will be separated from the group in a quiet, supervised area.
2. The parent/guardian will be contacted immediately and is expected to pick up the child within one hour.
3. All toys, surfaces, and materials used by the child will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

Return to Care

Children may return to care when they meet the following conditions:

- They are fever-free, vomit-free, and diarrhea-free for at least 24 hours without medication.
- They can participate comfortably in normal daily activities.
- If diagnosed with a contagious illness, a doctor's note may be required stating the child is no longer contagious.

Medications

Only prescribed medications will be administered, and only with written authorization from the parent or guardian. All medications must be in their original containers, clearly labeled with the child's name and dosage instructions.

Preventing the Spread of Illness



Family Links Early Learning Childcare Center staff model and teach healthy habits, including:

- Frequent and proper handwashing
- Covering coughs and sneezes
- Sanitizing toys and materials daily
- Encouraging adequate rest and hydration

We appreciate the cooperation of all families in helping us maintain a safe and healthy environment for our children and staff.

Parent Acknowledgment

I have read and understand the Family Links Early Learning Childcare Center Sick Policy. I agree to follow these guidelines to help maintain the health and safety of all children and staff.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____