

## Illness Policy

We understand the demands of work can be challenging when your child is sick. We strive to limit the spread of sickness at BCS and Play to Learn Extended Care and are committed to implementing policies that balance and respect the needs of children, families, and staff in these situations.

We know and understand that it is difficult for a parent/guardian to leave or miss work; therefore, it is suggested that alternative arrangements be made for occasions when children must remain at home or be picked up due to illness.

Play to Learn Extended Care, may request you keep your child home, return home, or pick up due to (but are not limited to) the following:

- Illness that prevents the child from participating comfortably in program activities, such as going outdoors.
- Illness that results in a greater need for care than our staff can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children.
- Illness that poses a risk of spread of harmful disease to others
- Severely ill appearance
- Fever of 100 or above. No exceptions.
- Fever of 99 and above with another symptom (including but not limited to) coughing, runny nose, lethargy, child is able to tell you they do not feel well.
- Diarrhea: watery stools or decreased form of stool not associated with change of diet; stool not contained in the diaper; child unable to reach the toilet; or stool frequency that exceeds 2 or more stools in a brief time period.
- Blood or mucus in the stools not explained by dietary change, medication, or hard stools. · Vomiting more than 2 times in the previous 24 or if we have a fear of dehydration.
- Mouth sores with drooling (unless the child's medical provider or local health department authority states that the child is noninfectious).
- Abdominal pain that continues for more than 2 hours
- Rash
- Skin sores weeping fluid and on an exposed area that cannot be covered
- COVID-19: Please see addendum, will require contacting the Health Department
- Purulent conjunctivitis (defined as pink or red conjunctiva with white or yellow eye discharge) until on antibiotics for 24 hours.
- Impetigo until 24 hours after treatment has been started.

- Strep throat (or other streptococcal infection) until 24 hours after treatment has been started.
- Rubella, until 7 days after the rash appears.
- Chickenpox, until all lesions have dried or crusted (usually 6 days after onset of rash).
- Pertussis (whooping cough) until 5 days of antibiotics.
- Mumps, until 5 days after onset of parotid gland swelling.
- Measles, until 4 days after onset of rash.
- Hepatitis A virus until 1 week after onset of illness or jaundice or as directed by the health department (if the child's symptoms are mild).
- Tuberculosis, until the child's medical provider or local health department states the child is on appropriate treatment and can return.
- Any child determined by the local health department to be contributing to the transmission of illness during an outbreak.

For your child's comfort, and to reduce the risk of contagion, we ask that children be picked up within 1 hour of notification. We always require a total of 4 contact numbers on file, updated regularly. If you pick up past the hour, we will charge a \$1/minute late pick up fee.

The final decision on whether to exclude a child from the program due to illness will be made by Play to Learn Extended Care.

If a child is sent home due to any of the above symptoms:

- The child must be picked up promptly upon notification.
- The child must be **fever-free and symptom-free without the use of fever-reducing or symptom-masking medication** before returning.
- The child must remain home and **a full school day must be observed at home** following the occurrence of fever, vomiting, or diarrhea before returning to school.

Note: Notes allowing for a child's return to the center after exclusion due to illness must originate from the child's medical provider. A note written and signed by the child's parent/guardian who is also a physician is not acceptable.

This policy helps prevent the spread of illness within our school community and ensures adequate recovery time for each child.