

To All Creative Kids Parents:

We need everyone's help, In our efforts to keep all children well during this cold and flu season. We understand that it is difficult for parent/gardian to leave or miss work; therefore, it is suggested that alternative arrangement be made for occasions when children must remain at home or be picked up due to illness. Exclusion from the center is sometimes necessary to reduce the transmission of illness.

Mild illnesses are common among children and infections are often spread before the onset of any symptoms. In these cases, we try to keep the children comfortable throughout the day, but will find it necessary to exclude them from the child care center for the following reasons (this covers most common illnesses, but is not inclusive of all reasons for exclusion.)

Child's Exclusion Due to Illness:

- Illness that prevents the child from participating comfortably in program activities.
- Illnes 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
- Fever (100 axillary (armpit), 101 orally), and behavior change or other signs and symptoms, e.g., sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, and difficulty breathing.
- Diarrhea - more watery stools or decreased form of stool that is not associated with change of diet. Exclusion is required for all diapered children whose stool is not contained in the diaper and toilet-trained children if the diarrhea is causing "accidents." Diapered children with diarrhea will be excluded if the stool frequency exceeds 2 or more stools above normal for that child.
- Vomiting more than 2 times in the previous 24 hours unless the vomiting is determined to be caused by a non-cmmunicable condition and the child is not in danger of dehydration.
- Mouth sores with drooling unless the child's medical provider or local health department authority states that the child in noninfectious.
- Abdominal pain that continues for more than 2 hours or intermittent abdominal pain associated with fever, dehydration, or other signs of illness.
- Rash with fever or behavioral changes, until a physician has determined it is not a communicable desease.
- Purulent conjunctivitis (defined as pink or red conjunctiva with white or yellow eye discharge) until on antibiotics for 24 hours.
- Strep throat (or streptoccol infection) until 24 hours after treatment has been started.
- Any chid determined by the local health department to be contributing to the transmission of illness during an outbreak.

Children need to remain home for 24 hours without symptoms before returning to the program. i.e., the child needs to remain out of the center for the remainder of the day he/she is sent home and the following day (if a child is sent home Friday, he/she may return Monday), unless the center recieves a note from the child's medical provider stating that the child is not contagious and may return to the center. In the case of a (suspected) contagious disease, rash or continuing symptoms, a doctor's note may be required before returning.

Thank you for your continued support as we strive to keep our children and staff healthy. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs. Michelle Lightle