

### Ill Child Illness Policy

In order to attend care at CCCC, children should be feeling well. Feeling well means being able to participate in regular classroom activities, not needing additional care (such as 1:1), not experiencing any significant discomfort, and are not considered contagious with any illness. Any symptoms listed below are to be understood as conditions to keep your children home unless otherwise approved by management. Should a child become ill while in care at the center, management will be notified as well as the parent. The parent may be asked to pick up the child as soon as possible. In addition to the above symptoms, any and all symptoms listed below would classify the child as an **ill child**, as referenced several times below. In addition, the Director/Administrator may require a child to be cleared by a physician before returning to the center. CCCC is neither licensed nor staffed for sick child care.

Children will be sent home and should be kept home if any of the following symptoms/diagnoses apply:

- **Temperature is 100.4 F or higher:** Fever may or may not signify the presence of a serious or contagious illness. Child care staff are not qualified to make that determination. The child may not return until they have been fever free for 24 hours (without taking medication to control temperature), unless otherwise specified below.
- **Symptoms and signs of possible severe illness:** For example, unusual lethargy, uncontrolled coughing, irritability, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, wheezing or other unusual behavior. Parents are encouraged and may be required to seek medical evaluation/clearance before returning to the center.
- **Bacterial infection:** If a child is diagnosed with a contagious bacterial infection such as strep throat or bacterial pneumonia, they may be contagious up to 24 hours after starting medications and may not return to the center until no longer considered contagious. If the bacterial infection is not considered contagious, such as an ear infection or UTI, the child may return to the center as long as they are no longer meeting criteria of an ill child.
- **Diarrhea:** (Defined as stool of pure liquid form) Your child must be kept home and/or will be sent home if your child soils a large portion of their clothing or cannot control their bowel movements (in older children), or if they have two diarrhea bowel movements in 45 minutes. (Longer than 45 minutes if associated with other symptoms such as stomach cramps, fever, or if the child requires special attention.) The presence of diarrhea increases the likelihood of exposure of other children and staff to the infectious agents that may cause illnesses. Children must remain home for 24 hours after diarrhea is no longer present.
- **Vomiting:** Vomiting may signify the presence of a contagious illness. To prevent the spread of illness to other children and staff, the child will need to be picked up by the parents if vomiting occurs at CCCC or kept home if vomiting occurs at home. We ask that the child remain home for 24 hours after vomiting is no longer present.
- **Rash:** Unexplained skin lesions or a rash that continues to spread may signify an infectious illness. To avoid potentially exposing other children, the child will need to be picked up unless a parent/guardian is able to provide an explanation outside of an infectious illness. Unidentified rashes must receive clearance from a physician before the child is able to return to CCCC.

- **Purulent Conjunctivitis (pink eye):** Defined as pink or red conjunctiva (the normally white portion of the eye) with white or yellow discharge, usually accompanied by itching. The child must be on antibiotics for at least 24 hours and/or must be considered no longer contagious before they may return to CCCC. In addition, if a child who is at the center presents with symptoms of pink eye, parents will be asked to pick up their child and get medically cleared before returning to the center.
- **Head lice, Scabies and Other Infestation:** At discovery of initial episode and/or if found during re-examination, these conditions are extremely contagious and, if left untreated, may quickly spread through CCCC. The affected child must receive an appropriate treatment as recommended by Public Health Officials and may not return to the center until 24 hours after treatment has been initiated or as recommended by a physician. A packet outlining these recommendations is available in CCCC's office.
- **RSV:** If a child tests positive for RSV, they may not return to care until they have been symptom free for 24 hours and the child is no longer meeting the criteria of being an ill child OR 10 days after onset of symptoms, whichever comes first. If the RSV positive child is in the downstairs classrooms, administration may be more strict on keeping children home from those rooms.
- **Covid19:** If Covid-19 is suspected, the child will be sent home. A negative PCR test will be required prior to returning to the center. If the child is diagnosed with Covid-19 they must not return for 10 days from symptom onset or as directed by physician/local health department. If a child is considered a close contact, they may not return until at least 10 days after last exposure or after day 7 and receiving a negative PCR test. Please see full Covid-19 Sick Policy Amendment for additional details.

In general, CCCC requests that you please keep your sick children home. Use your best judgement before bringing them in if they are presenting any symptoms, but especially those listed above.