

Health Information

A physician or health care provider's opinion is NOT an acceptable or legally binding reason for a child to remain or return to the Center.

The Children's Center staff reserves the right to make any health exclusion decisions.

Health Policies

Upon registration, a medical record including a Health Care Summary and an Immunization Record of each child must be submitted to the Family Services Coordinator. It **must** include a current physical examination and be signed by the family's health care source or provider. A record of a physical examination is again required yearly for infants and toddlers up to 33 months of age and whenever the child advances to an older age group. Documentation of updated immunizations **must** be submitted as each child has a change in their immunization record.

Illness

We are **not** licensed to care for sick children. It is important for you to make arrangements for substitute care when your child is ill.

Please keep your child home if your child...

1. Has vomited, had diarrhea or a fever in the last 12 hours.
2. Has skin sores, eye drainage, strep or bacterial infection. He/she may return to the Center when medication has been administered for 24 hours and signs of healing are evident.
3. Has an infectious disease or a rash of undiagnosed origin. A physician's release may be required before returning to the Center.

If your child becomes ill at the Center...

If a child should become ill during the day, they will be isolated from the other children and allowed to rest quietly until their parent/guardian is able to come and pick them up. The parents will be notified of their child's condition and asked to come and pick their child up. If the parents cannot be reached, then we will notify the emergency contacts.

If no one is able to be reached, or is unwilling to pick up the child, accommodations will be made to keep the child as comfortable as possible in the meanwhile. If the condition warrants, staff reserves the right to contact the child's health care source or call 911 for emergency assistance.

Exclusion of Sick Children (MN Dept. of Human Services Division of Licensing Rule 3 Guidelines) A child with **ANY** of the following conditions or behaviors is a **sick child** and must be excluded from a center **NOT** licensed to operate a **sick care program**. If the child becomes sick while at the center, the child must be isolated from other children in our care and the parent/guardian be called immediately to make other arrangements. A sick child must be supervised at all times.

As a license holder, The Children's Center **must** exclude a child:

- A. who has a contagious disease and the physician determines has not had sufficient treatment to reduce the health risk to others; *ex. measles, hepatitis*
- B. with chicken pox until the child is no longer infectious or until the lesions are crusted over; (*Children with the varicella 'chicken pox' vaccine may get chicken pox and are still considered contagious. Pox generally appear in crops. The process for each crop of pox to crust over may take up to a week.*)
- C. who has vomited since admission that day;
- D. who has had abnormally loose stools since admission that day; (*This includes stool that cannot be contained in a diaper, side effects to medicines, and teething reactions.*)
- E. who has contagious conjunctivitis or pus draining from the eye; (*Children must be excluded until a diagnosis is made and appropriate treatment administered for the appropriate length of time.*)
- F. who has a bacterial infection such as streptococcal pharyngitis or impetigo and has not completed 24 hours of antimicrobial therapy;
- G. who has unexplained lethargy; (*Unexplained lethargy may be a sign of a deeper concern.*)
- H. who has lice, lice nits, ringworm, or scabies that is untreated and contagious to others;
- I. who has a 100 degree Fahrenheit axillary (*underarm*) or higher temperature of undiagnosed OR diagnosed origin BEFORE fever reducing medication is given;
- J. who has an undiagnosed rash or a rash attributable to a contagious illness or condition;
- K. who has significant respiratory distress;
- L. who is not able to participate in child care program activities with reasonable comfort; *ex. physical play, outdoor activities*
- M. who requires more care than the program staff can provide WITHOUT compromising the health and safety of OTHER children in care.

Communicable Disease

Parents are asked to notify the Center within 24 hours if their child contracts a communicable illness. A note posted prominently in the room will notify parents if their child may have been exposed to a communicable disease at the Center. Information regarding the communicable illness, incubation period, symptoms and exclusion recommendations can be obtained from the Lead Teacher upon request.

Freeborn County Public Health and the regional medical center are our consultants. For additional information, you may refer to the Department of Health's list of reportable diseases. Additionally, each site maintains a current copy of *Infectious Diseases in Child Care Settings, 5th Edition*.

Administration of Medicine

Non Prescription Medications (over the counter)

Written permission from the child's parent is necessary before administering medicine, sunscreen, lotions, insect repellents and diapering medications. Non-prescription medicines will be administered according to the manufacturer's instructions, unless there are instructions provided by a physician or dentist. If the manufacturer's instructions do not allow for dosage to certain ages, the Center will NOT administer the medication

without a physician's written order. A physician's written order must be obtained for each illness/incident.

Prescription Medications

For prescription medications to be administered, The Children's Center will follow the written instructions from a physician or dentist before administering the medication. A signed permission slip from the parent must also accompany the prescription. Medications must be properly labeled for the child intended and in the original container with the current prescription information clearly printed. Medications that have expired will not be given and any unused portions of medication will be returned to the child's parents or be destroyed.

All medications will be kept out of reach of the children. Staff is instructed to read labels carefully to ensure proper dispensing and storage. Staff will record the date, time and dosage. Once the form has been completed or the prescription has been finished this documentation will be maintained in the child's file and is available to the child's parents at their request.

Injury/Accident/First Aid

Staff is informed of emergency and accident policies at their time of employment and these policies are reviewed annually. Head and Assistant Teachers are required to have First Aid and CPR certification. Prevention is the most important aspect with regards to promoting a safe environment. All staff is directed to identify and maintain a safe environment, both on premises and on field trips.

If your child sustains an injury during the day, you will receive this information on an Injury Report Form. Your signature will be required after reading the details and treatment of the injury. Because of our commitment to protect the privacy of each family, we are unable to release the name(s) of other individuals involved in the incident.

Minor Injuries

For a minor injury, first aid such as cleaning with soap and water, applying ice and a band-aid will be administered.

Major Injuries

For a major injury, first aid will be administered by the first person on the scene and 911 will be notified for emergency care. After calling 911, the child's parents and physician will be contacted. If an ambulance is necessary, a staff member will accompany your child in the vehicle to the emergency room at the hospital or clinic. Appropriate reporting to the Minnesota Department of Human Services will be conducted in a timely manner.