

Health and Medical Care Parent Information

Illness is an unfortunate but inevitable part of the child care environment. Please review the following policies related to health and medical care.

Our Centre follows the local Public Health guidelines related to the length of time children need to be excused from group care and when they may return to the centre. All cases will be given equal consideration.

Staff will complete a visual check of each child as they arrive at the Centre each day and will ensure that the child is well enough to participate in the program. Children who show obvious signs of communicable illness will not be admitted to the program. If your child becomes ill during the day, you (or the emergency contact) will be notified to pick up him/her as soon as possible. In some cases a confirmed diagnosis by your doctor may be required before your child returns to the Centre. Please note that when children return from being ill they must be well enough to participate in all aspects of the program INCLUDING outdoor play.

An outbreak of a communicable disease will result in distribution of a Public Health fact sheet after confirmed diagnosis by the child's doctor. Appropriate measures will be taken to keep the spread of disease to a minimum. This includes increased disinfecting of toys and surfaces and increased hand washing by the staff and children.

If your child is prescribed medicine it is essential that the directions be followed and the course of the medication be completed. The number one reason for re-infection is noncompletion of a prescription. Please complete a medication form and inform the staff when your child needs to be given their medication at the Centre.

To ensure the safety of all children it is imperative that ALL medications are given directly to staff i.e. not left in your child's bag.

Most pharmacists will divide the dosage of prescription medications into two (2) containers, if requested. One (1) container can be used for administration at the Centre and one (1) for administration at home. This helps to ensure that all doses are given.

Non-prescription medications requested by the parent for short term treatment i.e. cough medicines, decongestants, antihistamines will be administered and stored according to the policies outlined for the administration and storage of prescription drugs and medications.

EpiPens OR Inhalers

Little Giants recommends that each child have two (2) EpiPens at the Centre: one (1) locked in the medication box and (1) available at all times.

Little Giants will, with the written approval of the parent and medical practitioner, permit a child to carry their own EpiPen and/or asthma/allergy medication in a belt pouch. Little Giants will assess and review each situation to ensure that the child is sufficiently responsible to carry and administer the EpiPen, asthma or allergy medication.

The EpiPen must accompany the child throughout the day, both indoors and outdoors. The EpiPen(s) must accompany the child on trips.

Each child with an EpiPen must have an Action Plan completed by the parent and physician. These forms must be reviewed and signed annually by the parent and by the child's physician.

Directions for administering puffers must be clear and a medication form must remain on file for both regular and occasional use of puffers.

Childhood Illnesses

Chickenpox confirmed diagnosis, the child must remain at home until all lesions are crusted over, the child is fever free and able to participate fully in all aspects of the program.

Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)

The child will be excluded from care if discharge is thick and yellow or green. The child must be treated with prescription antibiotic drops for 24 hours and the eyes must be clear of discharge before returning to the centre.

Common Cold

The child may attend as long as there is no fever and the child feels well enough to participate in all aspects of the program.

Coxsackie Virus (Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease)

After confirmed diagnosis, the child may return to the Centre if they are fever free and feel well enough to participate.

Croup

The child may attend as long as there is no fever and is able to participate.

E. Coli Food Poisoning (Verotoxin-producing E. Coli ... a.k.a. hamburger disease)

The child can return to the centre after two consecutive stool samples, collected 24 hours apart, are cultured negative.

Fifth Disease (Slapped Cheeks Syndrome)

After confirmed diagnosis by doctor, the child may return if fever free and able to participate in all aspects of the program.

Head Lice

The child will be sent home when lice are detected. A pharmacist or doctor will recommend appropriate treatment. The child may return after certifying that treatment has been administered and that the child is free of pediculosis i.e. all nits (eggs) have been removed from the hair. Parent MUST continue to remove any nits until none remain. This will take several days. Follow up treatment seven days later is ESSENTIAL to ensure all nits are killed. If any live lice are rediscovered, treatment must be given again.

Measles (Rubella, Red Measles Virus)

After confirmed diagnosis, the child will remain at home for 7 days from onset of illness or 4 days from when rash first appears.

Meningitis due to: A Haemophilus Influenza B (Bacterial) or B Meningococcal Infection (Bacterial, Spinal Meningitis)

The child may return after adequate medical attention.

Mumps (Virus)

The child may return 9 days after swelling subsides.

Hepatitis A (Infectious Hepatitis, Viral Hepatitis)

The child may return one week after onset.

Pertussis (Whooping Cough Bacteria)

The child must remain at home under antibiotic treatment for 5 days of the 14 day course or 3 weeks if untreated.

Ringworm

The child may return after appropriate medication has been taken or used for at least 24 hours.

Roseola

After confirmed diagnosis by Doctor, the child may return if they are free of fever and able to participate fully.

Rubella (German Measles Virus)

The child may return 7 days after onset of rash.

Scabies

The child may return 24 hours after therapeutic lotion is applied.

Thrush (oral infection)

The child may attend if they feel well enough to participate.

Strep Throat / Scarlet Fever / Impetigo

After confirmed diagnosis by a doctor, a child must be fever free and treated with antibiotics for one full day before returning. All of the above are strains of Streptococcal bacteria.

Persistent Vomiting or Diarrhea

The child will be removed from the centre if diarrhea or vomiting is persistent or accompanied by fever or other signs of illness. The child must be free from vomiting or bouts of diarrhea for 24 hours in order to return to the Centre. Stool samples or diagnosis by doctor may be required for diarrhea depending on the circumstances.

Diseases and infections not listed will be assessed by your child's physician and/or Public Health Services to determine an appropriate course of action.

PARENT/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND CONSENT:

I hereby confirm that I have read and agree to abide by the policies related to the Health and Medical Care of children.

I authorized the administration of non-prescription and non-medicated sunscreen, lotion, lip balm, bug spray, hand sanitizer and diaper cream that are provided by or approved by me (parent/guardian) in the centre.

Name of Child: _____

Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Your continued cooperation in the matter of your child's health and the health of the other children in the centre is appreciated.