

HEAD START BIRTH TO 5- COMMUNICABLE & CONTAGIOUS DISEASE POLICY

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Performance Standard: 1304.22 (b)(1)

Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Homes and Child Care Centers, September 2011: 19 CSR 30-62.192 Health Care, (2) The Ill Child, (E-H).

PURPOSE For the temporary exclusion of a child with a short-term or acute contagious illness when keeping the child in care poses a significant risk to the health and safety of the child or anyone in contact with the child or when the ill child requires more attention and care than is available by the regularly scheduled staff.

GUIDELINES FOR EXCLUSION:

Children with any of the following must be excluded from school until the condition is no longer present, or until the student is cleared to return by a licensed health care provider;

- **Axillary temperature (under the arm) of 99.1 or higher. Oral Temperature (under the tongue) of 100.1 or higher. Take the temperature twice fifteen minutes apart with two separate thermometers.**
- **Diarrhea-more than one (1) abnormally loose stool (If a child is sent home three or more times in a month due to diarrhea, the Health Services Coordinator will be notified). Based on the information collected, the Health Services Coordinator will provide guidance to staff in order to improve the child's health and attendance in the program.**
- **Vomiting more than once**
- **Severe Coughing-If the child gets red or blue in the face or makes high-pitched croupy or whooping sounds after coughing.**
- **Difficult or rapid breathing (especially important in infants under six (6) months)**
- **Yellowish skin or eyes**
- **Pinkeye tears, redness of eyelid lining, irritation, followed by swelling or discharge of pus**
- **Unusual spots or rashes**
- **Severe itching of the body or scalp, or scratching of the scalp. (These may be symptoms of scabies or lice)**
- **Sore throat or trouble swallowing**
- **An infected skin patch(es)-crusty, bright yellow, dry or gummy areas of the skin**
- **Unusually dark, tea-colored urine**
- **Grey or white stool**
- **Headache and stiff neck**

Children needing exclusion due to illness will be separated from other children while waiting for transportation from the center setting.

The Area Supervisor must be contacted before a child is excluded from the classroom. If the Area Supervisor cannot be reached, contact the Health Services Coordinator. Please send a picture of the temperature to the Area Supervisor and the Health Services Coordinator.

RETURN TO SCHOOL:

- Child must be fever-free (without the use of fever-lowering medication) for 12 hours.
- Children diagnosed by a physician with a communicable disease, must have a doctor's note to return to class. (It is not necessary to have a note for head lice or non-bacterial diarrhea.)

Staff Reporting Requirements:

- Staff will report all diseases on the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services list of Diseases and Conditions Reportable In Missouri (19 CSR 20-20.020). Staff will contact their county health department. The reportable Diseases and Conditions chart will be available to staff on the agency website and will be posted in the centers.
- Parent(s) will be notified of reportable diseases and conditions that have been identified in the center. A handout about the disease or condition will be sent home to the parent(s).

Confidentiality of Medical Records:

Only staff members who have a reason to know the identity and condition of a participant with a communicable disease will have access to such information. Willful or negligent disclosure of confidential information about a person's medical condition by staff members will be cause for disciplinary action. When a staff member becomes aware or is made aware of a participant's communicable disease, they must consult with the Health Services Coordinator, who will provide directions on the storage of medical records, actions to be taken, etc.

Universal Precautions:

All staff receives annual training on Bloodborne Pathogens and Universal Precautions. Staff must follow Universal Precautions and assume every person may have a communicable disease. All centers are equipped with safety supplies, materials, and infectious control kits, with disposable airway masks for CPR/First Aid.