

**HOBOKEN DAY CARE 100**

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## **CHILD ILLNESS POLICY**

Hoboken Day Care 100 and the child care staff entrusted to care for your child, are concerned with your child's health. In spite of everyone's efforts, children do get sick. Young children, in particular, get sick more often because:

1. their immune systems do not fight illness as well as an adult's and
2. they have not been exposed to many of the germs (viruses, bacteria, fungi, or parasites) that cause infections.

Contagious diseases spread from one person to another. Often, people who spread disease do not look or feel sick. The germs spread by direct contact (touching), by coughing or sneezing, or by germs from the stool (bowel movement).

Maintaining health and preventing the spread of contagious diseases are responsibilities shared by parents, our staff and administration of Hoboken Day Care 100. Our staff is training in illness-prevention practices that limit spread of infections including proper hand-washing and cleaning techniques.

Hoboken Day Care 100 employs procedures for reporting exposures, identifying an ill child, and informing the parent of a child's illness. Parents are responsible for providing up-to-date emergency phone numbers, promptly picking up their ill child (within 60 minutes), and consulting with their child's doctor about diagnosis and care. Parents must inform the center when their child is ill with a contagious disease and should request their pediatrician's cooperation in consulting with the center if the illness has implications for the entire child care program. Any child that has been absent from the center for three or more days **MUST** bring a physician's note stating that they are free of illness and able to return to the center.

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines regarding children enrolled in the daycare center who show signs of illness or who may be absent with a contagious disease. Please use the following table as a guideline when your child is sick.

**EXCLUSION SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS****READMISSION CRITERIA**

<p><b>FEVER-</b>          -temperature at or above 100.4 degrees (orally or axillary)          -temperature at above 100 degrees with one other positive symptom or if less than six months of age</p>	<p>Fever has been absent for 24 hours without the use of medication. Please do not send your child to school medicated because their fever will return and you will receive a phone call to pick them up.</p>
<p><b>RINGWORM</b>          Flat, spreading ring shaped lesion</p>	<p>24 hours after physician's care and ringworm treatment begins (<b>NEED A DOCTOR'S NOTE TO RETURN</b>)</p>
<p><b>STREP THROAT</b>          Sore or reddened throat accompanied by a fever; may cause headache, loss of appetite, swollen lymph nodes in neck and bad breath</p>	<p>48 hours after physician's visit and antibiotic treatment begins (<b>NEED A DOCTOR'S NOTE TO RETURN</b>)</p>
<p><b>CONJUNCTIVITIS (PINK EYE)</b>          Red, watery eyes with thick yellowish discharge; puffy appearance to eyes</p>	<p>Discharge has diminished to the point that eyes are no longer runny and under treatment for at least 24 hours (<b>NEED A DOCTOR'S NOTE TO RETURN</b>)</p>
<p><b>DIARRHEA AND VOMITING</b>          Diarrhea-Three or more incidents within a four hour period          Vomiting-Two or more incidents within a four hour period or if the child is clearly uncomfortable</p>	<p>24 hours after the last incident of diarrhea or vomiting.</p>
<p><b>PERSISTENT COUGH (with one other positive symptom)</b></p>	<p>24 hours after symptoms subside</p>
<p><b>SORE THROAT (with one other positive symptom)</b></p>	<p>Sore or reddened throat and/or symptom are no longer present</p>
<p><b>CHILLS OR PROFUSE SWEATING (not weather related)</b></p>	<p>Chills or profuse sweating have been absent for 24 hours; child is free of symptoms and is able to participate in center activities</p>
<p><b>RASH</b>          Rash of unknown origin (not believed to be from medication) with one other positive</p>	<p>Rash has been identified by a physician as a non-contagious rash; or is under treatment and is no longer contagious</p>

symptom	<b>(NEED A DOCTOR'S NOTE TO RETURN)</b>
<b>NASAL DISCHARGE</b> Nasal discharge which is green or dark yellow in color and accompanied by a fever	Nasal discharge has become clear and/or fever is not present
<b>INABILITY TO PARTICIPATE</b> Child complains of not feeling well or is unable to participate in daily activities with one other positive symptom	Child is able to participate in center activities and is free of other symptoms
<b>HEAD LICE</b> Live lice on the scalp or nits attached to the hair shafts	24 hours after treatment and there are no lice or nits present
<b>OTHER CONTAGIOUS DISEASES/ILLNESSES</b> Measles, mumps, chicken `pox, scabies, impetigo	Child has completed the contagious stage of the illness <b>(NEED A NOTE FROM THE DOCTOR TO RETURN)</b>
<b>HAND, FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE</b>	24 hours blister free, no open or draining blisters <b>(NEED A DOCTOR'S NOTE TO RETURN)</b>
<b>FIFTH'S DISEASE</b>	24 hours fever free and child is able to participate in care

**POSITIVE SYMPTOMS INCLUDE;**  
**Headache, sore throat, cough, rash, low grade fever, inability to participate, nasal discharge, fatigue and lack of appetite**

These policies subject to change dependent on current health crises, community spread events, pandemics, etc.

Hoboken Day Care 100 reserves the right to exclude your child from care for the following reasons including, but not limited to, if we deem their symptoms to be too severe, if the care of the child is such that it will take away time/attention from the other children in our care or if the child cannot comfortably participate in the daily activities in their classroom. If your child is too sick to go outside you must keep them home for the day. We do not have staff specifically devoted to remaining indoors with a sick child.

The final decision whether to exclude a child from the center will be made by the center director and/or center staff caring for your child. In addition, a doctor's excuse or plan of care may be required by the center director prior to allowing your child to return to the center.

It is usually a good idea to call or consult a pediatric health provider early in the course of an illness. The pediatric health provider will help you determine how sick the child is and what treatment can be given. If your child is sick PLEASE let us know. This will help us to put into place any preventative measures necessary to help prevent the spread of the illness. We understand that parents must work but we must ensure that all of our children in the entire center are cared for.

All policies and procedures listed in this Child Illness Policy must be adhered to by all parents. It is very important to follow these policy rules. They reflect a common respect and responsibility to protect the children from illnesses. Failure to do so may cause an interruption in your child care services or termination of care. All parents are required to sign and date the Acknowledgment of Receipt of the Child Illness Policy, a copy of which will be maintained in your child's file.

## **Acknowledgment of Receipt of the Child Illness Policy**

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Child Illness Policy. By signing below I acknowledge that I will abide by these policies as written.

Failure to do so may result in interruption of child care services or termination of care.

CHILD NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT NAME (PRINTED) \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT NAME (SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_