

Guidelines for Excluding Children from Child Care

Certain symptoms in children may suggest the presence of a communicable disease. Children who have the following symptoms or any child who is not able to participate in child care program activities with reasonable comfort or who requires more care than the program staff can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children in care should be excluded from the childcare setting until:

1. A physician has certified the symptoms are not associated with an infectious agent or they are no longer a threat to the health of other children in the center.
2. Or the symptoms have subsided.

If the child should have any of the following symptoms in the morning or during the day, the child needs to be sent home.

FEVER	Auxiliary (arm pit) temperature; 100 degrees F, or higher. Oral temperature; 101 degrees F, or higher. Rectal temperature; 102 degrees F, or higher. Especially if accompanied by other symptoms such as vomiting, sore throat, diarrhea, headache, and stiff neck or undiagnosed rash.
RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS	Difficult or rapid breathing or severe coughing. Child makes high-pitched croupy or whooping sound after her coughs. Child is unable to lie comfortably due to continuous cough.
DIARRHEA	An increased number of abnormally loose stools in the pervious 24 hours.(more than 2 in an hour)
VOMITING	Any vomiting within the previous 24 hours- child must be out of the center 24 hours symptom free.
EYE/NOSE DRAINAGE	Thick mucus or pus draining from the eye or nose.
SORE THROAT	Sore throat, especially when fever or swollen glands in the neck are present.
SKIN PROBLEMS	Rash: skin rashes, undiagnosed or contagious.
ITCHING	Persistent itching (or scratching) of body or scalp.

APPEARANCE/
BEHAVIOR

Child looks or acts differently; unusually tired, pale, and lacking appetite, confused, irritable, difficult to awaken.

UNUSUAL COLOR

Eyes or skin – yellow (jaundice)
Stool – grey or white
Urine – Dark, tea colored
These symptoms can be found in hepatitis and should be evaluated by a physician.

MOUTH SORES
WITH DROOLING

Until a medical exam indicated the child may return.

SPECIFIC DISEASE EXCLUSIONS GUIDELINES

AIDS

Exclude infected child if he exhibits biting behavior, has an open sore which cannot be covered, or any bleeding disorders.

CHICKEN POX

Until all the blisters have dried into scabs; about 6 days after rash onset.

PINKEYE

Bacterial: Until 24 hours after treatment begins.
Viral: Until a letter from a physician is provided to verify that the child does not have bacterial.
Conjunctivitis: In both situations, the child should be well enough to participate in normal daily activities. (Must be on medication 24 hours before returning)

CMV

No exclusion is necessary.

DIARRHEA(INFECTIOUS)

Generally, until stool returns to normal. Each specific situation needs to be evaluated on an individual basis.

FIFTH DISEASE

No exclusion necessary.

GIARDIASIS

For those with diarrhea only; until the child has started treatment and diarrhea is no longer present.

HAND, FOOT & MOUTH

Until fever is gone and child is well enough to participate in daily activities.

HEPATITIS B

No exclusion necessary unless the infected child exhibits biting behavior, or has open sores that cannot be covered. Ask your doctor about the Hepatitis vaccination.

IMPETIGO	Until sores are healed or can be covered with bandages, and until child has been treated with antibiotics for at least a full 24 hours.
LICE	Until first treatment is completed and no live lice are seen.
MEASLES	Until 4 days after the rash appears.
MUMPS	Until swelling subsides; usually 5 days but may be as long as 9 days after swelling begins.
ORAL HERPES (COLD SORES)	No exclusion necessary.
PERTUSSIS (WHOOPIING COUGH)	Until 5 to 7 days after antibiotic treatment begins.
PINWORMS	Must be out 24 hours after treatment starts.
RESPIRATORY	Until the child is w/o fever for 24 hours and is well enough to participate in normal daily activities.
RINGWORM	Scalp: Until 24 hours after treatment begins. Body: Until after treatment begins.
ROSEOLA	Must be out until fever free for 24 hours.
RUBELLA (GERMAN MEASLES)	Must be out until 5 days after rash appears.
SCABIES	Until 24 hours after treatment begins.
STREPTOCOCCAL SORE THROAT	No 15 minute test is allowed. A 24 hour test is mandatory through the center.
SCARLET FEVER	If the test is positive, a child must be on an antibiotic and fever free for 24 hours before returning to the center.
THRUSH	Must be on medication for 24 hours before returning to the center.