



THE CHILDREN'S CENTER ILLNESS POLICY

Criteria for Excluding Children with Illness or Infection from TCC

ILLNESS	SIGNS & SYMPTOMS WHAT TO DO	WHEN TO RETURN
Temperature	Temperature of 101° or greater by axillary, rectal or oral reading. Seems sick and not usual self.	May return once the temp is within normal range or physician has seen child.
Lethargy, irritability, difficulty breathing, uncontrolled cough	These are all symptoms of illness and may indicate potential serious illness. Not acting usual self and does not play.	May return when symptoms subside or physician has seen child.
Uncontrolled diarrhea	Is defined as an increased number of stools compared to normal pattern, watery or decreased form of stools that cannot be contained by diaper or toilet use. If there are two bouts of diarrhea while at TCC the parent will be asked to take the child home.	May return when diarrhea has stopped or if child has been cleared by a physician
Vomiting	Two or more episodes in the previous 24 hours associated with other symptoms related to illness (like fever or diarrhea) or the child is at risk for dehydration (can't hold down food or liquid). <i>Do not bring your child to TCC if they have vomited on the way to school or at home before going to school. Parents will be called immediately if a child is vomiting at TCC. The child must be picked up ASAP.</i>	May return when vomiting has stopped and the child can take in food and liquids or physician has seen child.
Rashes	With fever or behavioral changes can indicate an infectious skin disease. Some rashes should be checked by physician.	May return when physician has determined that the child does not have a contagious disease.

SPECIFIC DISEASES

ILLNESS	SIGNS & SYMPTOMS WHAT TO DO	WHEN TO RETURN
Conjunctivitis “pink eye”	The eye is pink or reddened with white or yellow discharge.	May return after 24 hours of treatment.
Scabies	Intense itchy rash with red bumps and short wavy dirty looking lines. Found on hands, wrist, elbows, underarms and belt line. Found on head, neck, palms, soles and buttocks of infants.	Not necessary to be sent home in the middle of the day if occurs at TCC. May return 24 hours after treatment.
Lice	Small insects that hatch from “nits” (looks like dandruff) that stick to the hair shaft. Treatment: shampoo specific for treatment of lice and remove nits with fine tooth comb. Child must be “nit” free to return to TCC.	May return 24 hours after treatment.
Impetigo	Starts with an injury (scratch, bug bite, cut or burn). Red oozy round rash. May have honey colored crust and may be itchy. Wash hands well. Requires treatment with antibiotics.	Not necessary to be sent home from TCC in the middle of the day. May return after 24 hours of treatment.
Ringworm	Fungal infection of skin and nails. Treated with antifungal ointment. Will need a written prescription from physician if given at TCC.	No need for exclusion.
Pinworms	Tiny threadlike worms that live in the large intestine that can be seen in a BM. It is not dangerous but very irritating. Causes severe itching around rectal area. Use good hand washing, wash bed linen. Entire family may need to be treated.	May return after 24 hours of treatment and bathing.
Streptococcal Infections Scarlet Fever	Sore throat, fever, pink/red rash. Tongue has white coating that later turns red “strawberry tongue”	May return after 24 hours of treatment.
Strep Throat	Fever without symptoms or with symptoms or sore throat.	Same as above

Fifth Disease	Viral infection with a mild lacy rash on body followed with red cheeks “slapped cheek” appearance. Fever, headache, body ache, sore throat are some of the earlier symptoms. Pregnant women should check with their physician about possible exposure.	No exclusion. By the time the symptoms appear the individual is not longer contagious
Coxsackie Virus “Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease”	Virus causing fever and blisters in the mouth, hands and soles of feet. Sometimes red blisters on buttocks. The child’s mouth is painful so avoid citrus, salty or spicy foods. Cold drinks, popsicles and sherbet are soothing.	No exclusion. Hard to prevent the spread of infection. The condition is harmless but some individuals can feel very sick
Hepatitis A	Viral infection causing nausea, cramps, jaundice (not always seen in children) dark urine and light colored bowel movements.	Exclusion for one week.
Pneumonia or Meningitis	There is more than one kind or cause of these illnesses. They treated accordingly. Whenever your child is not acting normally, has complained of not feeling well or has a temp and the symptoms persist, you should be alert and call your physician.	Returning to TCC will depend on cause and the physician’s decision.

Please keep your child home if they were sent home the previous day. Allow the extra day for your child to fully recover from an illness to ensure your child will not relapse. If you are called to pick up your child due to illness please come as soon as possible. If antibiotics are prescribed, the child must have received 24 hours of treatment before returning.

By keeping sick children home, all children and staff will remain healthier.