



## STEMS CHILD CARE SICK POLICY

Children in child care are exposed to germs carrying disease and illness. The spread of disease cannot be completely prevented but this Child Care Sick Policy will help us to reduce the spread of illness whenever possible for all the children in our care.

- Teachers cannot provide care for a sick child when this places the health of other children at risk. Please keep your child at home if s(he) is sick. A child that is sick cannot participate in daily activities and routines and cannot be successful in group care.
- Each morning, and periodically throughout the day, our teachers perform quick health assessments on all children. If your child is found to be ill upon arrival, you will be asked to take your child home.
- If a child becomes ill while in our care, we will notify you so that you can make arrangements to pick up your child as soon as possible.
- If you are not reachable, we will contact one of your emergency contact persons to pick up your child. You must provide local emergency contacts with appropriate phone numbers (for example cell phones, not just the home or work phones).
- If you are asked to child to take your child home due to sickness and you are not able keep them at home to care for them, you must have a plan for backup care.

You will be asked to pick up a child who has:

- Fever with behavior changes or signs or symptoms of illness: an oral temperature over 101° F or under the armpit (axillary) temperature over 100° F.
- Diarrhea.
- Vomiting.

*Note: In case of fever, diarrhea and/or vomiting, the child should not return to school until 24 hours have passed since the last sign of the symptom.*

- Sore throat or difficulty swallowing.
- Headache or stiff neck.
- Severe itching or rashes.
- Mouth sores.
- Significant tiredness, irritability, crying.
- Difficulty breathing, chronic coughing or wheezing.
- Any contagious condition including ringworm, bedbugs, head lice or pink eye.
- Unusual nasal discharge



- Constant pain in the stomach.
- Behavior that seems slow, confused or disoriented.

These symptom listed above may or may not be associated with a communicable illness, but without the consultation from a health care professional it is impossible to determine the nature of the illness. Therefore, you will be required to pick up your child and you will be responsible for arranging any further evaluation or assessment of their healthcare needs.

#### Communicable Diseases

- You are required to notify the teacher immediately of any life-threatening diseases your child may have been exposed to.
- You are required to notify the teacher within 24 hours if your child or a member of your immediate household is diagnosed with a common, non-life-threatening communicable disease (such as flu or pink eye).
- The teacher will notify all parents within 24 hours if a communicable disease has been reported in your child's class.
- You will be asked to bring a note from a doctor or health care professional stating that the child may return to health care and is no longer contagious.