

WELL CHILD POLICY

GraceWay Children Academy

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The purpose of this policy is to control and prevent the spread of diseases to and from children, families, employees, and other parties in the daycare setting. A communicable disease is an illness due to an infectious agent that is transmitted directly or indirectly to a person from an infected person or animal. Our daycare families and employees have a responsibility to prevent the spread of communicable diseases when they suspect or become aware that an individual is a carrier of a communicable disease. Under no circumstances may a parent bring a sick child to daycare, if the child shows any signs of illness (see symptoms requiring removal of child from daycare) or is unable to participate in the normal routine and regular day care program. Normal activities of daycare include, but are not limited to: joining/sharing in classroom activities, play (both indoor and outdoor), ability to stay alert, engaged and be consoled, etc.

Sick children will expose all children and staff members who they come in contact with, these people can in turn expose the other children. This can be very disruptive to the daily operation of the center, as well as all children and their families. Your cooperation on this issue is extremely important. Please be considerate of your child, as well as the children, families, employees, and other individuals in the childcare setting – do not bring your child if you know they are sick. Not only may they be contagious, but they will have a harder time recovering if they are exposed to additional germs while at the center. Every effort is taken to reduce the spread of illness by encouraging hand washing and other sanitary practices.

Children will be visually assessed when they arrive in the morning. In the event a child becomes ill and needs to be picked up, the parent(s) will be called and are expected to come pick the child up within one hour (60 minutes). If the parent(s) cannot be reached, or have not arrived within an hour, the emergency contact person will be called and asked to come pick the child up.

For the benefit of our staff and other children in our care, a sick child will not be permitted to return to care for 24 hours after the condition has returned to normal (see I am ready to return to school when). The child may return 24 hours after they have received the first dose of an antibiotic. If a child receives an antibiotic for an ear infection, he/she may return to day care immediately if he/she has been free of other symptoms mentioned for at least 24 hours. If you aren't sure about whether or not to bring your child to care, please call the center and discuss it with the center's administration. Allergy related symptoms, and non-communicable illnesses do not require exclusion if you have a note from your doctor.

Symptoms requiring removal of child from daycare (including, but not limited to): fever*, vomiting, diarrhea, itchy rash accompanied with a fever*, sore throat accompanied with a fever*, active head lice, eye infection with crusty, red drainage, hospital or ER visit.

I am ready to return to school when (including, but not limited to):

- Fever*: fever-free for 24 hours without the help of medication
- Vomiting: able to eat 2 meals without vomiting
- Diarrhea: diarrhea has stopped for 24 hours
- Itchy rash accompanied with a fever*: rash is gone and no longer itches
- Sore throat accompanied with a fever*: when I have seen a medical provider – received antibiotics and/or have a note to return to school
- Active head lice: treated head appropriately for lice and nits, a follow-up treatment is requested in 7-10 days following initial diagnosis
- Eye infection with crusty, red drainage: when I have seen a medical provider – received antibiotics and/or have a note to return to school
- Hospital or ER visit: a medical provider provides a release to return to school

*Fever is defined as a tympanic (ear) temperature of 101°F or above. A temporal (forehead) scanner is also used as comparison and to ensure accuracy. If there is a major difference between the two temperatures the average temperature is used.

Please see the reverse side to acknowledge and agree to this policy.

Please do not question the decision to send your child home. It is at the discretion of the teacher and the center's administration whether the child is to be sent home. The decision to send a child home due to illness is made carefully and on an individual basis. For information on the behavioral and physical signs we look for to determine communicable disease and wellness, please refer to the Health & Wellness section of your parent handbook.

I acknowledge the above information stating when my child is too sick to come to daycare and when my child will be sent home due to communicable disease and/or illness. I give GraceWay Children Academy permission to assess my child's behavioral or physical changes, as well as, any symptoms that may arise and relate to his/her overall well-being and ability to participate in daily activities. I will respect the decision of the center's administration.

Child's name: _____

Parent's name: _____ Date: _____

Parent's signature: _____