

HEALTH POLICY

Children have a higher rate of illness when first enrolled in a new group setting; however, research shows that children who attend preschool acquire a strengthened immune system and experience a lower incidence of illness throughout the elementary school years compared with children who did not attend preschool.

At Los Altos-Mountain View Children's Corner, Inc. ("Children's Corner"), we promote a healthy environment and discourage the spread of diseases in several ways.

- Staff and children wash hands when entering the classroom at the beginning of the day and throughout the day, but especially before handling food or eating and after using the bathroom.
- Parents/guardians will use hand sanitizer at the gate before entering. Parents will not enter the classroom.
- Staff are trained in Preventative Health Practices and implement Universal Precautions as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC").
- Classrooms, toys and equipment are disinfected in the morning, in between classes and at the end of the day. Toys are cleaned and disinfected as needed or when any bodily fluids are involved.
- Children with communicable diseases or conditions are excluded from school.

We can greatly reduce the incidence and severity of illness at Children's Corner if we work cooperatively to prevent the rapid spread of communicable disease.

A health assessment is made of each child upon arrival. Staff will take the temperature of each child upon arrival. A fever is anything above a temperature of 100.4°F. Children showing any signs of illness are NOT accepted. We discuss health concerns directly with you.

If a child shows signs of illness or infection while at the center, the parent will be contacted and the child will be removed from the play areas until he/she is picked up. Parents will be asked to pick up their child immediately by the same adult that dropped them off that day as possible.

Children must be free of symptoms for 72 hours before returning to the center. This is for the protection of the recovering child; whose resistance is low and is just getting well. If the child receives fever reducing medication, the low fever does not count.

California law requires that children be completely immunized before enrollment at Children's Corner. Children must have received three doses of polio (OPV or IPV) vaccine; four doses of Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTaP or DTP) vaccine; one dose of Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine, one Hib vaccine on or after the 1st birthday; three doses of Hepatitis B (Hep B or HBV)

vaccine; and one dose of Varicella vaccine. We must receive a written record provided by the physician or agency performing the immunizations.

The law allows exemptions for medical reasons. In this case, parents must submit a licensed physician's written statement of a permanent medical exemption for missing shot(s) and immunization records with dates for all required shots not exempted.

If your child is under-immunized for a vaccine-preventable disease, and an outbreak should occur, your child must be excluded from school for the length of time determined by the California Department of Public Health.

Parents are required to let us know if a child contracts a communicable disease such as COVID 19, chicken pox, giardia, shigellosis, hepatitis, meningitis, or measles. A full list of required notice conditions and diseases is available upon request. You are notified if your child is exposed to a communicable disease while here.

Criteria for Child Staying Home Symptom List:

Fever for armpit method 99.4 F, forehead method 100.4 F or higher.

Cough

Runny nose

Sore throat

Stomach pain, diarrhea, vomiting

Body/Muscle pain

Rash

New loss of taste or smell

Shortness of breath

COVID 19 Symptoms include: fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, shortness of breathing, loss of taste and smell, skin rash, diarrhea, vomit, stomach pain.

You must report these symptoms to the center director immediately.

Children must be free of fever and symptoms for 72 hours before returning to the center. For example, a child's fever is gone at 4 PM on Day 1. S/he must stay home the next 3 days (Day 4) and be free of fever through 4 PM on Day 4. S/he may return to school the morning of Day 4 if the fever has not returned.

Fever. A fever of 100.4°F orally, 99.4 F axillary (armpit), 100.4 F aural (ear)

Criteria for a child to stay home:

Fever and all symptoms listed above including runny nose. Any behavior change or other signs of illness (e.g. sore throat, rash,

vomiting, diarrhea etc.).

Ear Infections. Fever, or lethargy, nausea, vomiting, loose stools, drainage, irritability, tugging on ears. A child may return to the center after being on medication for 48 hours and the 48 hours after constitutional symptoms are gone.

Eye Infection. With yellow or green drainage. Child must be on medication 48 hours and have no drainage before returning to the center.

Cough. A child with a cough will not be admitted to school.

Vomiting. A child with stomach pain vomiting or diarrhea will not be admitted! Child needs to be symptom free for 48 hours in order to return.

Recent history of head injury. Looks or acts very ill.

Skin Infection or Rash. No child will be admitted with a rash

Lice, Scabies, etc. Child may return to the center after appropriate treatment and shampoo.

Rashes. Accompanied by a fever or behavior change, until a physician determines that these symptoms do not indicate a communicable disease.

Strep Throat. If your child's rapid result test for strep throat is negative, your child may not return to school until the longer time-frame culture results also return a negative result, or until your child has been on antibiotics for a minimum of 24 hours after a positive result in either test method.

Other Communicable Infections. A child may return when infection symptoms have subsided after 48 hours and the child is feeling better. In some instances, a physician's release may be required.

Diarrhea. All cases of diarrhea (frequent watery, loose, or mucous bowel movements) must be reported to the center and cause explained. Diarrhea has more serious consequences than catching a cold. Severe dehydration can lead to hospitalization. The risks of spreading serious intestinal illness associated with diarrhea are more serious than the risk of spreading colds.

Criteria for child staying home. Diarrhea is accompanied by additional signs of illness (fever, runny nose, vomiting, irritability, lack of appetite, lethargy). Stool is not contained in the diaper for the diapered children. Diarrhea is causing "accidents" for toilet-trained children. Stool frequency exceeds 2 or more stools above normal for that child. Blood or mucus in stool. Stool that is black or very pale. Dry mouth, no tears, or no urine output for 8 hours. Jaundice (i.e. yellow skin or eyes). The child is unable to participate and staff determine that they cannot care for the child without compromising their ability to care for the health and safety of the other children in their care.

Any symptoms that persist for two or more weeks usually require medical attention.

I have read and understand the Health Policy. I agree to abide by the policy as written and understand that if I have any questions regarding the policy, they are to be directed to the Children's

Corner's Director.

Child's Name Date of Birth

Signature (Parent/Authorized Representative) Date