

ILLNESS POLICIES

WE ARE REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF MAINE THAT A SIGNED COPY MUST BE RETURNED TO US WHEN ENROLLING YOUR CHILD.

IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE HEALTH OF YOUR CHILD AND OTHER CHILDREN, FKO ADHERES TO THE LISTED GUIDELINES. WHEN A CHILD IS TOO SICK OR CONTAGIOUS, HE/SHE SHOULD NOT BE BROUGHT TO THE DAYCARE. IF AT ANY TIME, THE DIRECTOR, FEELS THAT A CHILD IS TOO SICK OR CONTAGIOUS, HE/SHE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED INTO THE DAYCARE. IF THE CHILD BECOMES ILL DURING THE DAY, IT WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARENT/GUARDIAN TO REMOVE THE CHILD WITHIN ONE HOUR OF NOTIFICATION. YOU WILL BE PROTECTING YOUR CHILD AND THE OTHER CHILDREN AT THE DAYCARE BY OBSERVING THESE GOOD HEALTH GUIDELINES.

GUIDELINES PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME IF HE/SHE HAS:

- ☹️ Auxiliary temperature (armpit) of 99.6 degrees or higher accompanied by other symptoms.
- ☹️ Conjunctivitis, which is an eye infection commonly referred to as pink eye; (the eye is generally red with some burning and thick yellow drainage).
- ☹️ Coughs producing phlegm and mucous with a slight temperature elevation.
- ☹️ Uncontrolled Diarrhea or two or more loose stools. (NOTE: Teething does not cause diarrhea).
- ☹️ Any symptoms requiring one on one care or causing severe discomfort.
- ☹️ Any rashes that you cannot identify or that haven't been seen by a physician.
- ☹️ Any parasitic infestation (lice, scabies, etc.).
- ☹️ Vomiting two or more times in the same day.
- ☹️ Any illness accompanied by open, oozing bacterial infections or severe and bloody diarrhea.
- ☹️ Any open or oozing sores, bloody gums or bloody feces or unexplained rash.

IF THE CHILD HAS A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE (MEASLES, MUMPS, ROSEOLA, ETC.) THE CHILD MUST BE KEPT AT HOME AND MAY RETURN ONLY WITH WRITTEN VERIFICATION FROM THE DOCTOR THAT THE CHILD IS NOT CONTAGIOUS.

IF A SIBLING OF THE CHILD HAS A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE AND THE CHILD ATTENDING FKO DOES NOT HAVE ESTABLISHED IMMUNITY TO THAT DISEASE, THE CHILD MUST BE KEPT AT HOME AND MAY RETURN TO THE DAYCARE ONLY WITH WRITTEN VERIFICATION FROM THE DOCTOR THAT THE CHILD IS NOT CONTAGIOUS.

PLEASE NOTE

IF THE DOCTOR PLACES THE CHILD ON AN ANTIBIOTIC, THE CHILD CAN NOT BE BROUGHT INTO DAYCARE UNTIL HE/SHE HAS BEEN ON MEDICATION FOR A LEAST 24 HOURS (BY MOUTH).



DESCRIPTIONS OF DISEASES and ILLNESSES

CHICKENPOX is a very contagious disease caused by varicella zoster virus. A vaccine against chickenpox is now available. Symptoms begin with an itchy rash of small red bumps on the scalp that spreads to the stomach or back before spreading to the face. Patterns can vary from person to person. It is believed to be spread person to person when a susceptible person is exposed to respiratory tract secretions or directly to fluid from the open sores of an infected person. Chickenpox can also cause more severe health problems in pregnant women. Any child who has chickenpox will be excluded from FKO until all chickenpox blisters have formed scabs and there is no presence of fever and can comfortably participate in outdoor and indoor activities.

CONJUNCTIVITIS (PINKEYE) can be caused by bacterial or viral infections or by allergic reactions to dust, pollen and other materials. A child will be considered to have conjunctivitis when there is white or yellowish pus that accumulates in or around the eye. Any child who has conjunctivitis will be excluded from the daycare until medication has been administered for at least 24 hours and there is no sign of discharge from the eye.

DIARRHEA can be caused by a variety of different germs, including bacteria, viruses, and parasites. Children can also have diarrhea without having an infection, such as when diarrhea is caused by food allergies or as a result of taking medications such as antibiotics. (NOTE: TEETHING DOES NOT CAUSE DIARRHEA). A child will be considered to have diarrhea when the bowel movements are both more frequent than usual (twice per hour) and looser and more watery than usual. Any child who is experiencing diarrhea will be excluded from the daycare until symptoms have disappeared.

FIFTH DISEASE also called "Slapped cheek disease", is an infection caused by parvovirus B19. Symptoms begin with a mild fever and complaints of tiredness. Within a few days, the cheeks take on a flushed appearance that looks like the face has been slapped. There could also be a lacy rash on the trunk, arms and legs. Fifth disease is believed to be spread through direct contact or by breathing in respirator secretions from an infected person. Children with sickle cell anemia, chronic anemia, or an impaired immune system may become seriously ill when infected and require medical care. If a pregnant woman becomes infected, the fetus may suffer damage, including the possibility of stillbirth. Any child who has fifth disease will be excluded from FKO until there is no fever present and the child can comfortably participate in our program.

HAND, FOOT & MOUTH DISEASE is a common childhood illness caused by coxsackievirus A16. Infection may result in painful blisters in the mouth, on the gums and tongue, on the palms and fingers of the hand, or on the soles of the feet. The fluid in these blisters contains the virus and symptoms may last for 7 to 10 days. The virus can be passed through saliva from blisters in the mouth and through the fluid from blisters on the hands and feet. Any child who has hand, foot & mouth disease will be excluded from the daycare until all blisters have opened and are dried, shall have no open sores in the mouth and no presence of fever.

HEAD LICE are tiny insects that live primarily on the head and scalp. Lice is primarily spread through direct head to head contact. Sharing personal items such as hats, brushes, combs and linens may also play a roll in the spread. Although small, adult head lice may be seen with the naked eye. Head lice suck blood and the rash caused by their feeding may be more noticeable than the insects themselves. Lice attach their eggs at the base of a hair shaft. These eggs, or nits, appear as tiny white or dark oval and are especially noticeable on the back of the neck and around the ears. Adult head lice cannot survive for more than 48 hours apart from the human host. Children with head lice will notify the daycare immediately and be excluded from FKO until they have been treated with a medicated shampoo, rinse or lotion developed specifically for head lice. The child must be free of nits before readmission. Nits can be removed using a fine-toothed comb. The child must be checked daily for 10 days for any evidence of new infection.

IMPETIGO is a skin infection usually caused by one of two types of bacteria. Impetigo appears as a blistering rash. When blisters open, they produce a thick, golden-yellow discharge that dries, crusts and adheres to the skin. Impetigo is spread among children in close contact. Any child who has impetigo will be excluded from the daycare until the blisters are gone, the rash is dry and medication has been administered for at least 24 hours. Both oral antibiotics and antibiotic cream may be prescribed.

VOMITING Please keep your child home until they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours from their last symptom. If a child vomits while in our care, they must be picked up within an hour and not come back for 24 hours from their last symptom.

(RSV) RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIA VIRUS causes infections of the upper respiratory tract (like a cold) and the lower respiratory tract (like pneumonia). It is the most frequent cause of lower respiratory infections, including pneumonia, in infants and children less than two years of age. It is highly contagious and is spread through direct contact with infectious secretions. Any child who had RSV will be excluded from the daycare until they are comfortably able to participate in all activities and do not require a level of care that would jeopardize the health & safety of the other children.

RINGWORM is a fungus infection of the scalp or skin. Symptoms include a rash that is often itchy and flaky. Ringworm on the scalp may leave a flaky patch of baldness. On other areas of the skin, it causes a reddish ring-like rash that may itch or burn. The area could be dry & scaly, moist or crusted. Ringworm is spread by direct contact with a person or animal infected with the fungus. It can also be spread indirectly through contact with articles (such as combs or clothing) or surfaces that have been contaminated. A child is infectious as long as the fungus remains present in the skin lesion. The fungus is no longer present when the lesion begins to shrink. Any child who has ringworm will be excluded from FKO until treatment from pediatrician has begun & infected area begins to shrink.

STREP THROAT / SCARLET FEVER is easily spread and is caused by a Streptococcus bacteria. It's spread when an infected person coughs or sneezes contaminated droplets into the air & another person inhales them. A person can also get infected from touching these secretions, then touching their mouth or nose. Symptoms of strep throat may include severe sore throat, fever, headache & swollen glands. If not treated, strep infections can lead to scarlet fever, ear infections and pneumonia. Scarlet fever is characterized by a bright red, rough textured rash that spreads all over the child's body. Any child who has strep/scarlet fever will be excluded from FKO until the child has been on prescribed medication and had no fever for 24 hours (from the first dose).

THRUSH is an oral infection that appears as creamy white, curd-like patches on the tongue and inside of the mouth. Outbreaks may be the result of increased antibiotic use. The infection can be passed through nasal and oral secretions. Any child who has thrush will be excluded from FKO until they have been treated with an antibiotic for at least 24 hours. The common antibiotic prescribed is nystatin.

FEVER A fever of 99.9 degrees or higher; this includes the night before & morning of daycare. No fever for 24 hours without taking fever reducing medication. If you had to give your child medicine the night before then that still means they can't come back the next morning.

POX-LIKE VIRUSES Your child must be home if they present symptoms that resemble or is a confirmed Pox virus. If anyone in your household is experiencing symptoms congruent with a Pox virus or is a confirmed case of a Pox virus your child should be home until 48 hours after all household members are well. Parents/emergency contact will be called to pick up their child if child is showing signs/symptoms of a Pox like virus or has continued discomfort from a recent outbreak. Children are expected to be picked up within 20 minutes of contact.

MEDICATIONS: FKO DOES NOT ADMINISTER ANY PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES OR OVER THE COUNTER MEDICINES.

FKO RESERVES THE RIGHT TO SEND HOME ANY ILL CHILD(REN).

PARENTS SHOULD EXERCISE EVERY CAUTION AND KEEP THEIR CHILD AT HOME SHOULD UNUSUAL SYMPTOMS OCCUR. IF YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN EXPOSED TO A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE, DETAILS SHOULD BE REPORTED TO FKO. NOTICES ARE POSTED UPON ENTERING, OUTLINING PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED IN INCIDENCES OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASE. ALL CHILD CARE STAFF MEMBERS ARE TRAINED IN AND FOLLOW THE APPROPRIATE PROCEDURES FOR INFECTION CONTROL.

**IF YOUR CHILD EXHIBITS ANY UNEXPLAINED RASHES, COMPLAINTS OR AILMENTS, PARENTS WILL BE NOTIFIED AND SENT HOME ACCORDINGLY.

*** PLEASE HAVE A CONTINGENCY BACK-UP PLAN FOR DAYS WHEN YOUR CHILD CANNOT ATTEND FKO DUE TO ILLNESS.

I HAVE READ and AGREE with the ILLNESS POLICY of FOR KIDS ONLY PRESCHOOL.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

_____/_____/_____
TODAY'S DATE