

Illness, Health, and Safety Policies

Sick Child Policy

- We understand it is difficult for parents / guardians to miss or leave work, therefore we request you make advance arrangements for those times when your child must remain home or be picked up early due to illness.
- Mild illnesses are common among children and often are spread before the onset of any symptoms.
- We will only care for a sick child who has a mild, noncontagious illness, such as the common cold or a low-grade fever associated with teething.
- We will not care for a sick school-age child who would not be allowed to attend class under the school health guidelines.
- If your child becomes ill during the day, we will continue to provide care and try to keep the child comfortable throughout the day.
- If your child becomes ill to a degree that requires a greater need for care than we can provide without compromising the health and safety of our other children in care, then we will call you and request that you pick up your child within 2 hours.
- If your child becomes ill and I am unable to reach you, we will then try to contact one of the other persons who is authorized to pick up the child.
- If your child becomes ill at home, you are required to notify me.
- You must notify me the morning of care before 9 AM if your child will not be attending my program due to illness.
- You must notify me within 24 hours if your child and/or a family member is diagnosed with a contagious illness or parasitic infestation, even on a holiday or weekend.
- If I become aware that your child has been exposed to a contagious disease or parasitic infection, I will notify you within 24 hours.
- You must notify me and make other child care arrangements if your child shows any of the following symptoms:
 - Pink eye
 - A temperature above 101 orally / 102 ear
 - Diarrhea (increased number and water content of stools that cannot be contained within the diaper)
 - Vomiting two or more times in the same day
 - A skin rash other than diaper rash or prickly heat. (To return the child to care, you must provide a written statement from a doctor saying that the child does not have a communicable disease.)

- Any parasitic infestation (lice, scabies, etc.)
 - chicken pox (The child may return when all the blisters have dried and formed scabs, usually about 6 days after the onset of the rash.)
 - any other communicable disease (tuberculosis, etc.)
- Sick children are not permitted to return to care until 24 hours after the last incidence of fever, vomiting, or severe diarrhea, or 24 hours after prescribed medical treatment has begun.
 - If a case of head lice is found in my program, I will notify all my clients and everyone in my home will be checked. Children must be treated and be free of nits before they will be allowed to return to care.
 - If you don't comply with my illness policy, I may terminate our contract.

Administering Medication

- If you would like me to administer medicine to your child, you must sign a separate written authorization for each prescription. The medicine must be in its original container, labeled with the child's name and the instructions for administering it. (You should ask the pharmacist to split each prescription into two containers, one for me and one for you, each with a full label and instructions.)
- I do require a signed release from a doctor before I will dispense prescription medication to the children.
- I require written authorization before dispensing nonprescription medicine, such as Tylenol, cough syrup, etc.
- I must have a doctor's written permission before I will administer over-the-counter medication to children who are younger than suggested or in an amount exceeding the required dosage.
- I will not administer any medication or preparations to children without your written consent. This includes sunscreen lotions, insect repellents, and diapering products.
- I will accept a child who is still taking prescribed medication with a doctor's written confirmation that the child is no longer contagious.
- I will document all medication that I dispense to the children in my files.

Immunizations

- You are required to keep your child current with all immunizations. Each time your child is immunized, you are required to promptly give me an updated copy of your child's immunization record or notify me so that I can update my record of your child's immunizations in my files.
- You are required to update my records of your child's immunizations each year.

Emergency Policy

- To reduce the risk of fire, I follow the fire safety rules and state laws regarding smoke detectors and fire extinguishers.
- I teach the children that if there is ever a fire in the house, they should run outside.
- In case the power goes out, I keep a first aid kit, flashlights, and extra blankets on each floor.
- I teach the children about household safety and about personal safety.
- I keep near my phone a list of emergency numbers (police, hospital, and ambulance) and the emergency contact numbers for all my clients. I bring these contact numbers with me whenever I take the children on a field trip or other excursion away from home.
- You must provide me with the names and phone numbers of at least one other person to call if I cannot reach you in an emergency.
- You must keep me informed at all times of how you can be reached in an emergency, and then check your pager, voice mail, and cell phone often. If you leave work early, go to another location for the day, or vary your normal routine, you must let me know how I can contact you that day.
- If your child is involved in a serious or life-threatening emergency, I will call 911 and get immediate medical care, and then I will call you as soon as possible.
- If your child is involved in an emergency that is not serious or life-threatening, I will call you as soon as possible.
- My emergency plan includes:
 - an emergency meeting place away from the home
 - fire drills as required by state law
 - an emergency plan for an earthquake
 - a backup caregiver who can care for the children in case I have a personal emergency
- My home has all the smoke detectors and fire extinguishers necessary to comply with state fire safety laws.
- I am required to report any child care accident that requires treatment by a physician to the proper agency: State of California Community Care Licensing.

Pets

- I do not have pets.

Water Hazards

- There is no swimming pool, lake, river, or body of water on or adjacent to my home.

Smoking, Drinking, and Drugs

- My home is a smoke-free environment. No one is permitted to smoke in or immediately outside my home, either during or after child care hours.
- I am not a smoker. No one else living in my home smokes.
- I do not drink alcohol during business hours. I do not use drugs.
- My employees are forbidden to use alcohol during working hours as well as forbidden to use drugs at any time.