

Your Child's Place main criteria for sending children home who are ill:

When a child becomes ill but does not require immediate medical help, a determination must be made regarding whether the child should be sent home (i.e. temporarily "Excluded" from child care. Most illnesses do not require exclusion. The Teacher and Director will determine the illness and if any of the following criteria are met:

1. Prevents the child from participating comfortably in activities
2. Results in a need for care that is greater than the staff can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children
3. Poses a risk of spreading harmful disease to others, which may include the following:
 - a. Appears to be severely ill – this could include lethargy, lack of responsiveness, irritability, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, and quickly spreading rash.
 - b. Fever *and* behavior change in children older than 4 months - For this purpose, a fever is defined as temperature above 101F orally or 100F or higher taken by either armpit or ear.
 - c. Diarrhea – all diapered children whose stool cannot be contained inside their diaper, multiple "accidents" for toilet-trained children. Additionally, diapered children who have 2 additional stools above their normal output must be sent home (as teachers are unable to maintain sanitary diapering techniques with this type of frequency.)
 - d. Unexplained blood/mucus in stools.
 - e. Vomiting more than 2 times in a 24 hour period (unless vomiting is determined to be caused by a non-communicable condition and child is able to hydrate.)
 - f. Abdominal Pain that continues for more than 2 hours.
 - g. Open body sores and mouths sores with associated drooling.
 - h. Rash *with* fever and behavioral changes (unless a physician determines the illness is not a communicable disease.)
 - i. A diagnoses of any of the following: TB, Strep Throat, Head Lice/Nits, Scabies, Chickenpox, Rubella, Pertussis, Mumps, Measles, Hepatitis A.

Common conditions that do not require a child being sent home to control the spread of disease to others:

- Common colds, runny noses (regardless of color or consistency of nasal discharge), and coughs
- Watery eye discharge without fever, eye pain, or eyelid redness.
- Fever without any signs or symptoms of illness in children who are older than 4 months.
 - *Fever is an indication of the body's response to something, but is neither a disease nor a serious problem by itself.* Body temperature can be elevated by overheating caused by overdressing, a hot environment, reactions to medications and responses to infection. If the child is behaving normally but has a fever, the child should be monitored, but does not need to be excluded for fever alone.
- Rash without a fever and behavioral change
- Pinkeye – the child will be monitored and removed from group activities if needed.
- The presence of infectious germs in stool and urine without illness symptoms (exceptions include potentially serious organisms.)