

HEALTH EXCLUSION POLICY

Daycare responsibility and prevention methods

Daycare staff applies the following measures to prevent the transmission of disease:

- Keep up to date with the protocols and guidelines issued by Public Health.
- Ensure the well-being of children, parents and staff
- Provide appropriate short-term care for the child, depending on the severity of the condition.
- Inform parents of any illnesses that may be at the daycare center during an epidemic.
- Wash hands frequently;
- Use proper nose-blowing technique;
- Sneeze or cough into the elbow;
- Hygienic change of disposable diapers;
- Daily disinfection of toilets, change tables and door handles;
- Daily disinfection of toys;
- Daily ventilation of playrooms;
- Daily washing of floors;
- Avoid sharing personal objects: glasses, washcloths, etc...;
- Use of gloves (if necessary);
- Good food preparation practices;

Parent's responsibility

- Give all essential information about your child's health when registering at the daycare center.
- Give all relevant information about your child's health on a daily basis (medication, sleep, general condition, symptoms, etc.). The parent may contact the daycare staff if he or she is unsure of what to do. This call must be made before bringing the child to the daycare center.
- Be available to pick up the child as soon as possible when a staff member contacts you during the day.
- Have a substitute to pick up the child if the parent is unavailable.
- Consult a health professional, if necessary, and request a written medical note.
- If the child is not seen by a health professional, symptoms must have diminished significantly before returning to the daycare center.
- Respect the exclusion period.

General exclusion criteria

According to the recommendations of the Ministère de la Famille, the child's general condition and ability to function in the various activities and routines of the daycare center are important benchmarks for deciding whether or not to withdraw the child.

All the educators have several children in their care. It's impossible for them to devote their time to just one child without neglecting the others. The ECC is therefore unable to meet the needs of a sick child. The child may need sleep, comfort and extra physical care.

Symptoms to watch for

A child cannot be accepted at the daycare center if any of the following symptoms are observed:

- Fever (axillary/underarm) temperature of 38oC (100oF) or higher);
- Diarrhea;
- Vomiting;
- Unusual mood preventing him/her from following the group: constant crying, lack of energy or sleep, irritability;
- Pain in ears or stomach, breathing difficulties;
- Persistent or uncontrollable cough (if untreated)
- Undetermined skin rash (especially if accompanied by other symptoms).

If a child must be withdrawn from the daycare center on two consecutive days due to fever, he/she will not be allowed to attend on the third day. He/she may return to the daycare center on the fourth day, provided that no medication has been given to mask a fever.

Duration of exclusion

To reduce the risk of illness contagion and avoid "recontamination" at the daycare center, here is the duration of exclusion for each illness:

Illnesses	Duration of exclusion and conditions of reintegration*
Infectious conjunctivitis (pink eye and/or eye with yellow or white discharge)	24 hours after the start of treatment and without discharge.
Impetigo	48 hours after the start of treatment
Scabies	24 hours after start of treatment
Lice	The day after treatment
Hepatitis A (Jaundice)	Once the child is treated and children in the group

Chicken pox	Once the child can follow the group activities.
Gastroenteritis (Epidemic diarrhea affecting 2 or more children)	Until the symptoms have disappeared and the child is in general good condition
Diarrhea	Until the symptoms have disappeared and the child is in general good condition
Ear infection (complications of colds or flu)	Once the child can follow the group's activities
Whooping cough	5 days after start of treatment
Cold and flu	As soon as child is able to follow group activities
Pharyngitis - Tonsillitis Scarlatina	24 hours after the start of treatment and good general health
Pneumonia	After the start of treatment if the child can follow the group
Laryngitis (false croup)	As soon as the child can keep up with activities and the coughing is reduced

In all cases, the child's general condition must be good before reintegration. The daycare center may require a written medical opinion prior to the child's return.

Emergency health measures

Please note that in the event that the daycare center must call 911 for ambulance services, in accordance with Urgences Santé Québec standards, it will be the parent's responsibility to pay the cost of the service in question.