Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases

Germs spread person to person, person to object to person, animal to person, and insect to person.

Follow your program’s policies and procedures.

Daily Health Check

- Greet each child, upon arrival.
- Check for any illness or injury to child.
- Conducted by caregiver who is familiar with child.
- Not a medical evaluation.

Acceptable Immunization Certificates

- Iowa Certificate of Immunization
- Provisional Certificate of Immunization
- Exemption Certificate of Immunization (Medical or Religious)
- There is a 60 day grace period for children experiencing homelessness.

When Do I Wash My Hands?

- Starting and ending work.
- Before and after eating, handling food, and feeding children.
- After toileting/diapering.
- After wiping noses or handling body fluids.
- Before giving medicine or first aid.
- After handling animals.
- After playing in water, sand, or dirt.
- After handling garbage.
- After outdoor play.

Hand Sanitizer

- Use only as an alternative when soap and running water are NOT available.
- Use when hands are not visibly soiled.
- Use only alcohol-based sanitizers
- Use only with children over 24 months of age with adult supervision.

1. Select an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered product.
2. Read the label, instructions, and review the ingredients.
3. Look for signal words (Caution, Warning, Poison). Use the least toxic product.
4. Follow the surface dwell time.

Reduce the Spread of Germs

| Clean (remove) | Hands, toys, tables, dishes, floors |
| Sanitize (reduce) | Food contact surfaces, mouthed toys or objects |
| Disinfect (destroy) | Door and cabinet handles, drinking fountains, diaper changing surfaces, floors, sinks, toilets and bathroom surfaces |
EXCLUSION CRITERIA

Use the following three major criteria.

The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in activities.

The illness results in a need for care greater than you can safely provide.

The illness poses a risk of spreading infectious disease to others.

Some Illnesses that Do Not Require Exclusion

• Common cold
• Cough
• Runny nose
• Eye discharge not associated with fever, eye pain, or redness (including pink eye)
• Rash without fever or behavior change

Some Conditions which May Require Exclusion

Younger than 2 months
• A fever above 100.4°F is an urgent situation and requires medical evaluation within an hour.

Older than 2 months
• A fever above 101°F with behavior change or symptoms of illness:
  • Diarrhea
  • Blood or Mucus in stool
  • Vomiting
  • Abdominal Pain

Illnesses that Require Exclusions

• Mouth sores with drooling
• Rash with fever
• Impetigo (bacterial skin infection)
• Scabies
• Chicken pox
• Rubella
• Measles
• Hepatitis A
• Mumps

Procedures for Excluding

• Notify parents or guardians.
• Provide a quiet, supervised area for the ill child.
• Separate the child from other children by at least 3 feet.
• Review child care program policy and guidelines for readmission.
• Document actions in the child’s file.

Checking for a Fever

• Use only a digital thermometer.
• Record the temperature reading and the location taken.
  Example: 100.6°F axillary (armpit)

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