

Illness & Sick-Child Policy

Follows current Oregon DELC child care illness rules

We're committed to a healthy, safe environment for every child. Children need to be well enough to take part fully in all indoor and outdoor activities, without needing more individual care than staff can safely provide.

WHAT WE ASK OF PARENTS

- Keep your child home when they meet any exclusion listed below.
- Tell us **immediately** if your child is diagnosed with or exposed to a communicable disease.
- Arrange prompt pick-up when we notify you that your child is ill.
- Keep phone numbers, emergency contacts, addresses, and medical information current.
- Have a back-up child care plan for the days your child can't be here.

WHEN A CHILD MUST STAY HOME

SYMPTOM	WHEN THEY MAY RETURN
Fever — above 100.4°F	After 24 hours fever-free <i>without Tylenol, ibuprofen, or another fever reducer</i>
Diarrhea — three or more watery, bloody, or loose stools in 24 hours, sudden onset of loose stools, or loss of bowel control	48 hours after the diarrhea has resolved
Vomiting — one or more unexplained episodes	48 hours after the last episode
Severe or persistent coughing	After symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours
Difficulty breathing or abnormal wheezing	After symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours, or with medical clearance
Eye infection or conjunctivitis — red, itchy, crusted, severely draining, weeping, or pus-filled eyes	When symptoms have resolved, or with written clearance from a licensed health care provider
Open or draining sores — impetigo, contagious cold sores, or other draining skin conditions	When sores are dry, completely covered by a secure bandage, or medically cleared
Unexplained rash — any unusual or contagious-looking rash should be evaluated by a health care provider	When symptoms have resolved, or with written medical clearance
Chickenpox	After all sores have dried and crusted over, and any public-health requirements are met
Head lice or another infestation — please notify us immediately	After treatment is complete and no live lice are present
Unusual yellowing of the skin or eyes	Written clearance from a licensed health care provider is required
Stiff neck and headache accompanied by another symptom in this policy	When symptoms have resolved, or with medical clearance
Severe pain, unusual tiredness, confusion, irritability, decreased alertness , or a behavior change that prevents normal participation	When symptoms have resolved, or with medical clearance
Runny nose with green or yellow discharge when accompanied by fever, severe coughing, breathing difficulty, or inability to participate comfortably	When symptoms have resolved

These exclusion periods follow Oregon's current child care illness rules, including the required 48-hour return period after unexplained vomiting or diarrhea.

ANTIBIOTICS

When antibiotics are prescribed for a contagious bacterial illness, a child must generally receive treatment for at least **24 hours** before returning. A longer exclusion may apply depending on the illness or on instructions from your child's health care provider or public health authorities. **Antibiotic treatment alone does not permit a return** if other exclusion symptoms remain.

✦ **IF A CHILD BECOMES ILL HERE**

We'll move your child to a comfortable, supervised area away from the group and contact you to pick up as soon as possible. If we can't reach you, we'll call an authorized emergency contact from your child's enrollment form. Emergency medical services are contacted when necessary.

✦ **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE NOTIFICATION**

Please tell us immediately when your child is diagnosed with a communicable disease. When required, we report the illness to **Washington County Public Health**, follow their exclusion and readmission instructions, and notify enrolled families of possible exposure — always protecting the affected child's confidentiality.

Firefly Family Collective may require written clearance from a licensed health care provider or public health official before a child returns to care.