



# Daycare Sick Policy

## Introduction

At [Daycare Name], the health and safety of the children in our care is our top priority. This sick policy outlines the guidelines and procedures we follow to prevent the spread of illness and ensure a healthy environment for all children and staff.

## Symptoms Requiring Absence

Children should be kept at home if they exhibit any of the following symptoms:

- Fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher
- Vomiting more than once in the past 24 hours
- Diarrhea (three or more watery stools in a 24-hour period)
- Persistent cough or difficulty breathing
- Rash, especially with fever or behavior change
- Eye discharge or conjunctivitis (pink eye)
- Sore throat with fever or swollen glands
- Severe headache or stiff neck
- Lice, scabies, or other parasitic infestations

## Return to Daycare Guidelines

Children may return to daycare when:

- They have been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- They have not vomited or had diarrhea for 24 hours.
- They have been on antibiotics for at least 24 hours if diagnosed with a bacterial infection.
- They have a doctor's note stating they are not contagious and are healthy enough to return.
- They are free from lice or have been treated and are free from nits.

## Communication Protocols

- Parents must notify the daycare as soon as possible if their child is diagnosed with a contagious illness.
- The daycare will inform parents and staff if a contagious illness has been reported, while maintaining confidentiality.
- Updates and reminders about our sick policy will be communicated regularly.



## Health and Hygiene Practices

- Children and staff are required to wash their hands frequently with soap and water, especially before meals and after using the restroom.
- Toys and surfaces are sanitized regularly to minimize the spread of germs.
- Tissues and hand sanitizers are readily available throughout the facility.

## Staff Policies

- Staff members are expected to follow the same guidelines for illness as children.
- If a staff member becomes ill, they must notify the administration and refrain from coming to work until they are symptom-free.

## Emergency Procedures

- If a child becomes ill while at daycare, they will be isolated from other children, and parents will be contacted immediately to pick up their child.
- In case of a medical emergency, appropriate emergency services will be contacted, and parents will be notified.

## Review and Updates

This sick policy will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to ensure it remains effective and in line with current health guidelines.

# Acknowledgment

By enrolling your child at [Daycare Name], you acknowledge and agree to adhere to the guidelines set forth in this sick policy.

