



## **ILLNESS POLICY**

**developed with help from Dr. Rebecca Hagerty**

The symptoms which indicate that a child should stay home and/or receive medical treatment include any of the following:

- ✓ FEVER – any temperature over 100.4°; less if the child feels badly or acts “out-of-sorts”
- ✓ NOSE DRAINAGE – until thick yellow or green discharge disappears (clear drainage is OK)
- ✓ DIARRHEA – more than one episode in a two-hour period
- ✓ VOMITING for any reason
- ✓ RASH - undiagnosed
- ✓ SCABIES AND LICE
- ✓ ANY COMMUNICABLE DISEASE (pink eye, strep throat, chickenpox, etc.)

If a child is ill, as judged by a staff member in charge, a parent or parent representative will be contacted and asked to come for the child immediately. The child will be isolated from other children until a parent arrives.

### **WHEN MAY A CHILD RETURN TO SCHOOL?**

- ✓ When a fever is absent for 24 hours
- ✓ When the child has had antibiotics (for appropriate conditions determined by a physician) for 24 hours or more
- ✓ When a rash is diagnosed as non-contagious by a physician and a note is provided to document it
- ✓ When nasal drainage is clear
- ✓ When diarrhea has stopped for 24 hours
- ✓ When vomiting has stopped for 24 hours
- ✓ If rotavirus / norovirus are diagnosed, children may be contagious for up to 2 weeks after the illness. A note from a physician stating the child is no longer contagious is required before re-entry to school.
- ✓ Scabies and lice must be cleared and nits completely gone
- ✓ Cuts and wounds must be kept covered until healed. If a wound is actively draining pus, the child must stay home until he is diagnosed and treated by a physician and cleared to return.
- ✓ A child with chicken pox may return only when all lesions (rash spots) are completely crusted over and healed.

**Dr. Hagerty recommends the following two websites for information about children’s illness:**

[www.aap.org/](http://www.aap.org/) American Academy of Pediatrics – Parenting Corner

[www.kidshealth.org/parent](http://www.kidshealth.org/parent) Kids Health for Parents

Parents may contact Dr. Hagerty with related questions at [rhagerty@hagerty.com](mailto:rhagerty@hagerty.com).