

Making Your Child Care Centre a Healthy Environment



A Fact Sheet for Child Care Operators and Staff

York Region Community and Health Services is mandated to inspect all child care centres to ensure compliance with food safety regulations, infection control and safe water standards. This fact sheet is provided for information and guidance to child care centre operators.

Recommended Policy for Ill Children in Child Care

York Region Community and Health Services recommend that child care centres adopt the following policy:

1. Staff must greet each child as they arrive at the centre to ensure that each child is well enough to participate in the program.
2. Children with signs of physical illness will be treated as infectious.

Signs of Physical Illness:

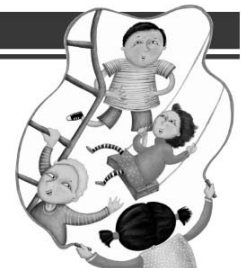
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Fever
- Seizure
- Severe coughing
- Difficult or rapid breathing
- Runny nose
- Yellowish skin or eyes
- Redness of eyelid lining
- Unusual spots or rashes
- Infected skin patches
- Unusually dark, tea coloured urine
- Grey or white stool
- Headache and stiff neck
- Unusual behaviour
- Loss of appetite
- Severe itching
- Pain
- Sore throat or trouble swallowing



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For more information, please call
York Region Health Connection 1-800-361-5653 TTY: 1-866-252-9933
www.york.ca

 **York Region**



The Following Precautions Must Be Implemented To Prevent The Spread of Infections in the Centre:

- Symptomatic children must be separated from those who are well
 - The child's temperature must be taken and documented
 - Parents/ guardians will be notified to take the child home. If the child exhibits signs of enteric illness (diarrhea or vomiting) the child must be excluded from the child care centre until they are symptom free for at least 24 hours (e.g. if a child is sent home Tuesday they cannot return on Wednesday). Parents should be contacted after the first episode to determine if the child was ill with similar symptoms prior to attending child care
1. Children who are diagnosed by a physician as having a Childhood Communicable Disease may only return to the Child care Centre as specified in the "York Region Community and Health Services Guidelines and Information on Childhood Communicable Diseases" (see Chapter 3).
 2. Certain illnesses must be reported to the local Medical Officer of Health. Contact our Community and Health Services department at 905-830-4444, x3500 if you have any questions about reporting an illness or what illnesses are considered to be reportable.
 3. The supervisor must inform all families of increased or unusual illness, maintaining strict confidentiality of the child's identity.
 4. The occurrence of three or more staff or children becoming ill with 2 episodes of the same symptoms on the same day is considered an outbreak and our Community and Health Services department must be notified as soon as possible at 905-830-4444, x3500.
 5. Families must agree to adhere to the ill children policy to have their child enrolled in the child care centre.



For further information, contact
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