

Sick/Short Term Exclusion Policy

Policy ID: NENCAP HS-PO5

Board Approval Date: 7/9/20

Policy Council Approval Date: 7/16/20

Health Advisory Approval Date:

Effective Date: 8/1/2020

Performance Standard:

Purpose:

The Sick/Short Term Exclusion Policy is to control the spread of any condition or illness that may compromise the health of the children in our classrooms. A short-term exclusion will be required for any conditions spread through the intestinal tract, the respiratory system, direct contact, excessive drainage, etc. Refer to the Ecto-Parasite/Bug procedure for additional guidance and/or the Health Emergency Policy 04 if condition requires medical attention.

If a child has a short-term illness and is communicable or in distress, they should remain at home until they are symptom free. If any child returns to class and symptoms persist, the staff may contact the Health Specialist to inquire if a doctor's note should be requested. If a child is absent due to illness for 3 days or more, a doctor's note must be required before the child can return to class.

- Fever at or above 100.4° F (Non-contact or Tympanic-ear) or 99° F (Axillary-armpit) - with or without medication
- Diarrhea (Early Head Start staff can determine if the diarrhea is unrelated to illness, such as teething)
- Unusual skin color, spots or rashes
- Swelling, bruises, sores, or cuts
- Respiratory: cough, sneezing, wheezing, shortness of breath, runny nose
- Mouth sores with drooling
- Evidence of ecto-parasite infestation:
 - Head Lice: The child must be bug and nit free to return to class
 - Scabies: The child must receive medical treatment and have a doctor's note before returning to class
 - Fleas: The child must be flea free to return to class
 - Bed Bugs: The child must be bed bug free to return to class
- Communicable diseases (as identified and described in the Nebraska Admin. Code- Title 173; Chapter 3) that must be reported: COVID, Chickenpox, Conjunctivitis/Pink Eye, Diphtheria, Pinworm, Fifth Disease, Hepatitis A, Herpes Simplex Type 1, Impetigo, Influenza, Bacterial and Viral Meningitis, Measles, Mumps, Pertussis, Polio, Ringworm, Rubella, Strep Infection, Hand, Foot & Mouth Disease, Staph Infection-non MRSA, E.coli, Shigella, TB, RSV, MRSA, suspected food or waterborne clusters or outbreaks

If a child has a suspected or physician confirmed communicable disease, the Health Specialist should be notified immediately. A Communicable Disease Report will be completed and sent to the Health Specialist. In the event of a community outbreak of a communicable disease, centers must notify the Health Specialist. An advisory group will make a decision on next steps for the local Early Childhood Center. Each outbreak will be considered individually, taking into account the type and severity of the illness and other locally determined factors. The advisory group will consist of: Health Specialist, Early Childhood Nurse, Early Childhood Director, Health Services Director and/or the local public health dept where the individual resides.