

## **8. Health & Immunizations**

8.1 CCS endorses and engages in preventative health practices in order to decrease the incidences of illness and spread of disease. This includes encouraging vaccination, the right to change policies as directed by Public Health, and the right to assess the health of the child at any time.

8.2 Enrolling parents are required to disclose their child's history and medical information.

8.2.1 A child requiring specific attention because of a health condition, allergy, sensitivity or developmental concern must be identified prior to enrollment or as soon as diagnosed. A Health & Safety Plan may be required.

8.2.2 Parents must provide a copy of their child's immunization record prior to starting in the Centre and must disclose immunization updates as they occur.

8.2.2.1 If the enrolling parents have not immunized their child, they must sign an Immunization Agreement. The Immunization Agreement indicates that a parent must exclude their child from the program when a communicable disease is identified in the Centre or as directed by Public Health.

8.2.3 Parents are required to notify the Centre of any communicable disease that their child is exposed to or contracts within 24 hours.

8.3 A child is deemed ill and unable to attend the Centre through the use of Public Health Guidelines, the child's ability to participate in normal activities of the Centre, and the protection of the other children, families, and employees in our Centres.

8.3.1 A child is too ill to attend CCS if the child:

1. has chills, runny nose with green/thick discharge, or persistent sneezing;
2. has a fever of 100.4F/38C or higher;
3. has a persistent/worsening cough, difficulty breathing or wheezing;
4. has a sore throat or difficulty swallowing;
5. has unexplained or undiagnosed pain, headache, body aches, or fatigue;
6. has a loss of sense of smell, taste, or appetite;
7. has infected skin, eyes or an undiagnosed rash;
8. has diarrhea;
9. is vomiting or experiencing nausea;
10. is severely itching their body or scalp;
11. has any communicable disease or symptoms of one;
12. is clearly demonstrating abnormal behaviour and/or irritability;
13. has received fever reducing/over-the-counter medication to reduce any of the above symptoms at home or on the way to the Centre.

8.3.2 The enrolling parent may be required to take their child for a health assessment when symptoms displayed may be abnormal for the child or be those of an undiagnosed illness. A medical note stating that the child is not contagious, and/or that it is safe for the child to attend group child care, will be required to return to the Centre.

- 8.4 CCS employees will care for a child who becomes ill at our Centre while waiting for the parent or emergency contact person to arrive. To ensure the health and safety of all, the ill child will be isolated where possible and supervision provided.
- 8.4.1 Parents will be notified immediately of their child's illness and immediate pick-up will be required.
  - 8.4.2 In the event that the child becomes seriously ill, emergency first aid will be administered by an employee, and a College OFA will be called for support.
- 8.5 The child may return to the Centre, in consultation with an employee, provided that:
- 8.5.1 The child has been symptom free for 24 hours - without any over-the-counter medications or with a prescribed antibiotic that has been given at home for 24 hours and has been reaction-free;
  - 8.5.2 The parent provides a note from a health professional indicating that the child is free of illness/contagion and it is safe for the child to attend group child care.
- 8.6 CCS employees may administer medication (prescription or non-prescription) to a child provided that it can be administered to children under the age of 6.
- 8.6.1 The child must receive the medication at home and have been reaction-free for 24 hours before re-entry.
  - 8.6.2 Medication will only be given to a child with a medical note and/or the original container from the pharmacy and a Permission to Administer Medication (PAM) form filled out by the enrolling parent.
  - 8.6.3 The employees will follow the instructions on the PAM form and/or original container and keep a written log of the medication's administration.
  - 8.6.4 The medication will be stored in a locked cabinet out of the reach of children unless a child requires access for self-medication.
  - 8.6.5 CCS employees may consult with the health professional where, in their judgment, there is reasonable concern as to the appropriateness of administering the medication supplied by the parent. Such consultation may result in a refusal to administer medication.
- 8.7 Medical conditions requiring regular administration of medication at the centre require a Health & Safety Plan and are to include direction from the health professional.
- 8.7.1 Plans will be developed in accordance with the Health & Safety Plan Policy.