



## CHILD CARE SERVICES HEALTH POLICIES

### **5.81 Preventive Health**

Child Care Services endorses and engages in preventative health practices in order to decrease the incidences of illness and spread of disease.

### **5.82 Right to Assess**

Child Care Services' staff has the right to assess the health of the child upon entry, or at any time throughout the program, and exclude them from the program if necessary.

### **5.83 Immunizations, Allergies, Epipens, & Ventilators**

5.831 We require all children that are immunized to have their immunizations up-to-date before entry into the Center. Parents are required to fill out a health history form.

5.832 If an enrolling parent(s) has not immunized, or chosen not to immunize, their child, an Immunization Agreement must be signed. The agreement indicates that a parent must exclude their child from the program when a communicable disease is identified in the centre.

5.833 It is the parent's responsibility to inform the Center if the child requires specific attention because of a health condition, particularly any allergies or sensitivities. The staff will post the list of allergies in the eating area.

5.833a) If a child or staff member have a peanut allergy, the severity of the allergy will determine the Center's response. In the event the allergy is severe, the Center will be a peanut-free zone.

5.834 Epipens and ventilators are to be provided by parents and are required to be kept at the centre. Renewal dates are the responsibility of the parents.

### **5.84 Illness Guidelines**

A child is deemed sick by the centre staff through the use of the following criteria: the comfort and safety of the child who is sick, the staff's ability to accommodate or care for a sick child in the group care context, the child's ability to participate fully in daily activities of the centre, and the protection of the other children, families, and staff in our centers.

### **5.85 Illness Criteria**

A child is too ill to attend Child Care Services if:

- a) the child has an acute cold with a fever, runny nose, runny eyes, green mucus discharge, persistent coughing, or sore throat
- b) the child has difficulty breathing or is wheezing
- c) the child complains of unexplained or undiagnosed pain
- d) the child has a fever of 100F or 38.3C or higher
- e) the child has an ongoing sore throat or difficulty swallowing
- f) the child has infected skin or eyes or an undiagnosed rash
- g) the child has a headache and/or a stiff neck
- h) the child has diarrhea or a loose stool (2 loose stools in succession within 3 hours)
- i) the child is vomiting
- j) the child is severely itching their body or scalp
- k) the child has any communicable disease or symptoms of one

### **5.86 Communicable Disease Notification**

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

5.861 Staff will post a notice that a child has been exposed to a disease or contracted a communicable disease in an effort to minimize its spread.

### **5.87 Care for a Sick Child at the Center**

Child Care Services' staff will care for a child who becomes ill in our centers while waiting for the parent or emergency contact person to arrive. Parents will be notified immediately of their child's illness and request pick-up.

5.871 In the event that the child becomes seriously ill, a First Aid Attendant will be called while waiting for the parent's arrival. Additionally, the First Aid Attendant may also call an ambulance in more serious circumstances.

5.872 In the event that the parent cannot be reached, the staff will contact the alternate contact person listed on the registration form.

### **5.88 Re-Entry following Illness**

The child may return to the program, in consultation with the Sr. Educator, after an illness if the following conditions are met:

- a) the child has received an antibiotic for 24 hours and there are no related symptoms
- b) the child is no longer contagious

- c) the child is symptom free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication
- d) the parent provides a note from a qualified medical practitioner indicating that the child is free of illness

5.881 Children may not attend the center if tylenol has been administered at home or on the way to the center.

### **5.89 Administration of Medication**

To limit the risk of re-infection, children should be given the *full* course of medication as prescribed by the doctor. If a doctor prescribes prescription drugs for a child, the child must not return to the child care center until they have received the medication for 24 hours. Center staff may administer medication (prescription or non-prescription) if it is brought in the original container from the pharmacy and can be administered to children under 6 years old. The enrolling parent must fill out the *Permission to Administer Medication Form* that is available from your Sr. Educator or the Child Care Office. Staff will follow the directions on the medication bottle combined with the parent's instructions as recorded on the *Permission to Administer Medication Form*. Staff will keep track of when the medication has been given and record any unusual effects of the medication.

5.891 In the event of a rapidly spiking fever, child tylenol may be administered after staff receive verbal permission from the enrolling parent, alternate contact person, and/or advice from the family physician.

M:\Policy\Health Policies - Revised Jan 09.Doc5.892 In the event, over-the counter cough and cold medicines have been prescribed for the child, staff will refuse to administer these medications. The Health Canada regulations clearly state antihistamines, antitussives, expectorants, and decongestants must be relabeled to say "Do not give to children under 6".

5.893 Child Care Services' staff may consult with the prescribing physician and/or other qualified medical personnel 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.