

Cornerstone Academy Day Center (C.A.D.C.)
Infection Control Policy

It is inevitable that children will get sick, no matter where we are. As children begin to have contact with the world outside that of their own families, they come into contact with germs and bacteria that are foreign to their bodies and in this way their bodies build immunities. We cannot, nor would we want to, shield a child completely from the outside world. If we did, the natural immunities a child gains through contact with others would not develop and a simple cold could become a serious illness. We do, however, want to protect a child from an unusually high exposure to germs all at once.

In a childcare setting, children come into contact with groups of other children outside their families. It is in this situation that the illness of one child can spread rapidly through the group to other children and staff members if stringent measures to prevent this spread are not taken.

For this reason, the staff at CADC will take constant precautions to prevent the spread of disease. Many common childhood diseases are contagious. Germs can be spread several ways: Intestinal tract infections are spread through stools. Respiratory tract infections are spread through coughs, sneezes, and running noses. Other diseases are spread through direct contact. Careful hand washing by staff and children can eliminate approximately 75% of the risk of spreading these illnesses. Other precautions include separating sick children from those who are well, taking extra precautions with diapered or toilet training children, and working to maintain sanitary conditions throughout the center.

You, the parents can help us in our effort to keep your children healthy. We ask your cooperation in the following ways:

- 1. Parents will inform the center within 24 hours or the next business day after their child or any member of the immediate household has developed any reportable communicable disease, except for life threatening disease which must be reported immediately.**
2. If your child shows any of the symptoms listed below, you will be called and asked to come immediately and get the child. Please help us protect the other children and your child by responding immediately. If the child has any of the following symptoms at home, or is sent home from school, we will not permit him/her to return to school until the symptoms have been gone for 24 hours, or until your child has been on antibiotics for 24 hours, or until your physician says it is all right to return.

The symptoms include:

- Fever- 101 degrees
- Severe coughing- child gets red or blue in the face
- Child makes a high-pitched croupy or whooping sounds after the coughs
- Difficult or rapid breathing- especially in infants
- Green mucus from the nose with fever
- Pinkeye- redness of eyelid lining, followed by swelling and discharge of pus
- Unusual spots or rashes
- Unusually dark, tea colored urine- especially with fever
- Grey or white stool
- Headache and stiff neck
- Vomiting
- Severe itching of body or scalp or scratching of scalp
- Diarrhea (more than three)

If any of the above symptoms are present or if child appears cranky or less active than usual, cries more than usual, or just seems generally unwell at home, you are asked to look for any of the above symptoms and inform the child's teacher so that the child can be watched carefully for the development of symptoms.

It is imperative that we all work together to keep all of the children who attend CADC as healthy and happy as possible. We thank you for your cooperation.

Parent signature

Date