

## Sickness/Illness Policy for Daycare

At Kinder Kollege Daycare the health and well-being of our children, staff, and families are of utmost importance. We adhere to the sickness/illness policy as per Alberta Health Services standards to maintain a healthy environment for all individuals involved. The following guidelines outline our procedures in the event of sickness or illness:

### 1. Parental Responsibility:

- Parents are responsible for monitoring their child's health and ensuring they are free from contagious illnesses before attending daycare.
- It is the duty of parents to inform the daycare staff if their child is exhibiting any symptoms of illness or if they have been diagnosed with a contagious condition.

### 2. Exclusion Criteria:

- Children exhibiting any of the following symptoms should not attend daycare:
  - Fever (temperature of 38°C/100.4°F or higher)
  - Diarrhea or vomiting
  - Persistent coughing or difficulty breathing
  - Skin rash with fever
  - Severe headache or body aches
  - Sore throat with fever or swollen glands
  - Yellowish skin or eyes
  - Pink eye (conjunctivitis)
  - Head lice infestation
  - Any other symptoms of contagious illness

# 3. Return to Daycare Criteria:

- Children may return to daycare once they are symptom-free for a minimum of 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- In the case of certain illnesses (e.g., strep throat, pink eye), children must provide a doctor's note indicating they are no longer contagious before returning to daycare.
- Children with antibiotic treatment must complete at least 24 hours of medication before returning to daycare, and their symptoms should be improving.



#### 4. Isolation and Care:

- If a child becomes ill while at daycare, they will be separated from other children in a designated isolation area until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian.
- Staff members will provide comfort and care to the sick child while awaiting pickup, ensuring they are kept comfortable and monitored closely.

## 5. Cleaning and Disinfection:

- All toys, surfaces, and common areas will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected daily to prevent the spread of illness among children and staff.
- Proper hand hygiene practices will be enforced for both children and staff, including regular handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

#### 6. Communication:

- Parents will be promptly notified if their child becomes ill while at daycare, and they will be required to pick up their child as soon as possible.
- Information regarding contagious illnesses within the daycare will be communicated transparently to all parents while maintaining confidentiality.

# 7. Staff Health Monitoring:

- Staff members are required to monitor their own health and report any symptoms of illness to the daycare management.
- Sick staff members are required to stay home until they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.



At Kinder Kollege Daycare, the health and well-being of our children, staff, and families are our top priorities. We follow the guidelines provided by Alberta Health Services (AHS) to ensure a safe and healthy environment for everyone. The following policy outlines when children should be kept home from daycare, the list of illnesses considered contagious, and when they can return to daycare after being ill.

## When to Keep Your Child Home:

- 1. **Fever:** Children with a fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher should stay home until they have been fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medication for at least 24 hours.
- 2. **Vomiting or Diarrhea:** Children who have vomited or had diarrhea should stay home until they have not vomited or had diarrhea for at least 24 hours.
- 3. **Contagious Illnesses:** Children diagnosed with contagious illnesses such as chickenpox, strep throat, or conjunctivitis (pink eye) should remain home until they are no longer contagious as determined by a healthcare provider or until they have completed any required treatment.
- 4. **Severe Symptoms:** Children with severe symptoms such as persistent coughing, difficulty breathing, or lethargy should stay home until they have recovered or received clearance from a healthcare provider to return to daycare.

# List of Contagious Illnesses:

- 1. Chickenpox
- 2. Strep throat
- 3. Influenza (flu)
- 4. Gastroenteritis (stomach flu)
- 5. Hand, foot, and mouth disease
- 6. Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
- 7. Head lice
- 8. Impetigo
- 9. Fifth disease
- 10. Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)



### When Your Child Can Return to Daycare:

Children can return to daycare when they:

- Have been symptom-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing or symptom-altering medications.
- Are no longer contagious as determined by a healthcare provider.
- Have completed any required treatment for contagious illnesses.
- Are able to participate in daycare activities without posing a risk to themselves or others.

For specific guidelines on when to keep your child home and when they can return to daycare, please refer to the Alberta Health Services website: AHS Illness Guidelines.

By adhering to this sickness/illness policy, we can maintain a healthy and safe environment for all children, staff, and families at Kinder Kollege Daycare. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.