

Communicable Disease Policy & Minimum Health Protocols

We value your child's health and recognize the importance of preventing infectious diseases, particularly in a childcare setting. If any child in our care is diagnosed with any communicable disease, as specified by your center's state licensing agency, parents/guardians of the other children will be notified. If you would like additional information about reportable diseases in your state, please contact your Center Director.

Health Protocols for families whose children attend childcare:

Please do not send your child to school if he/she exhibits any of the following conditions and/

or symptoms:

- Any reportable condition that the local health department or your child's physician has determined to be contagious including influenza and COVID-19. In this instance, your child may return upon receipt of a physician's or medical evaluation release note;
- **Any fever following these State Minimum Standards:**
 - (A) Oral temperature of above 101 degrees and accompanied by behavior changes or other signs or symptoms of illness;
 - (B) Rectal temperature of above 102 degrees and accompanied by behavior changes or other signs or symptoms of illness;
 - (C) Armpit temperature of above 100 degrees and accompanied by behavior changes or other signs or symptoms of illness; or (
 - (D) an ear (tympanic) temperature 101 degrees and accompanied by behavior changes or other signs or symptoms of illness
- A child's normal temperature is 98.6°F (37°C).

Parents are required by the state to screen yourself and your child before going into a childcare center for any of the following new or worsening signs of Communicable diseases including COVID-19 and influenza:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing Chills
- Muscle Pains Persistent headache Complaints of ear pain Undetermined rash
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal cramping Nasal discharge that is green/yellow
- Eye discharge that is pussy or yellow, redness/pink burning & itching eye(s)
- Known close contact with a person who is confirmed with a communicable disease or COVID-19

If any of these signs or symptoms appears while your child is at school, he or she will be kept separate from the group; and you will be contacted to arrange immediate pickup. In many cases, children will not be allowed to return until 24 hours have passed without symptoms.

Colds, flu, COVID-19, respiratory diseases and other contagious diseases seem to occur frequently and spread easily in group care settings. To help protect your own child's health and to minimize the possibility of contagion at school, please keep your child at home if you observe any of the above symptoms. If these symptoms of possibly contagious conditions or

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other conditions deemed contagious are observed in your child during the day, you will be called to come pick up your child immediately.

The child may not return to school until he/she is symptom-free for 24 hours, unless there is a doctor's note stating the child may return sooner. If there are any lingering signs of illness, i.e. glassy/watery eyes, listless, and/or drowsiness, etc., please keep your child home an additional day. This will help to ensure that the illness has actually passed and that your child will be well enough to resume school activities. Their immune systems may still be weak and re-entering the school environment may re-trigger infection or sickness.

In the event that a FAMILY MEMBER living in the SAME household presents positive for a highly contagious communicable disease, particularly COVID-19, we will require for BCA students to stay home for the amount of time that the entire family is NEGATIVE, symptom-free.

BCA will maintain the same quarantine policy, as stated above for staff members.

****We do not have an on-campus Well program or a Nurse on staff. If your child is sick, they must remain at home.***

Please inform the office if your child will be absent due to illness. This helps us ensure that we can keep contagion to a minimum in our classes and inform other affected families.

For Covid specific cases: BCA will require a Negative Covid test and doctor's clearance letter for child [student] to return to school.

BCA administration is completely aware that in order for the above policies to work appropriately in order to keep as many students/staff healthy, it would require honesty and openness from our family partners. We depend on your sincerity and highly appreciate that you see this as a partnership and understanding that we have a responsibility to our students, staff, and community.

Masks

BCA Staff will wear masks if there is a high risk outbreak of a highly contagious communicable disease in the community or school.

BCA will not enforce a mask policy for children. Parents are welcome to mask their children 2 yrs. and up. Please note that teachers will try their best to enforce children to keep the mask on throughout the day. However as you know, this may be difficult depending on each child's temperament. So if you are going to send your child to school with a mask, please practice practice practice at home.

Medications

BCA recommends that you dispense medication to your child before or after the school day. (Most physicians can provide a prescription for 12-hour dosages of medication.) If medication must be dispensed at the center,

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BCA will use the following for dispensing of medication guidelines:

- Medication must be signed in on the daily medication log, **located in the front office**, and given to a member of our management team at the front desk. Additional forms may also be required by your individual state-licensing agency. Do not leave medications for your child with a teacher or in their backpack.
- Prescription medications must be in their original packaging or container and be clearly labeled with dispensing/dosage instructions and your child's first and last name.
- Nonprescription, or "over the counter," medications can only be administered according to the label instructions, including recommended age-appropriate dosages. Nonprescription medications must be in their original packaging or container and be clearly labeled with your child's first and last name and the date it was brought to the center. No OTC medications will be given for longer than two (2) weeks without written permission from a physician.
- If your child requires ongoing medication, please complete the BCA Ongoing Medication Form, available from the front office. Additional forms may also be required by your individual state-licensing agency. Topical medications, such as sunscreen, diaper ointments, or teething gels, may not require physician approval but may require written consent to apply; if a parent provides these items then permission is implied.
- If your child has an adverse reaction to medication, we will document his or her symptoms and call you for immediate pick up.

Hand washing

Hand washing is like a "do-it-yourself" vaccine. It involves five simple and effective steps-- Wet, Lather, Scrub, Rinse, Dry--you can take to reduce the spread of diarrheal and respiratory illness so you can stay healthy. Regular hand washing, particularly before and after certain activities, is one

of the best ways to remove germs, avoid getting sick, and prevent the spread of germs to others. www.cdc.gov/handwashing

CLLC emphasizes stringent hand washing and sanitation procedures (such as "covering" a cough), both as a part of our daily routine and as a specific part of our curriculum, beginning at age two.

COVID-19 Outbreak Procedures

If a student or staff member [affected person] is confirmed to have Covid-19 while recently at the facility, BCA will follow the following procedures:

- Follow all CDC and local Health Department guidelines.
- BCA office will inform all families via email if an affected person came into contact with their child with information regarding specifics of that affected person and risk level for classroom.
- BCA will coordinate with appropriate health authorities to determine a plan of action and/or dismissal decisions due to Covid exposure.
- If exposure is determined to be HIGH RISK, there is a possibility that the entire class will be quarantined at home for at least a week to determine level of risk and exposure.
- If a family member living in the same household as a student is positive for Covid-19, we will ask for student to also stay at home, until the family household is cleared.
- If the exposure is determined to be LOW RISK, then no further action is required.

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- All affected areas, surfaces, toys, and equipment will undergo a thorough cleaning and disinfection.
- BCA administration will follow up with families in classroom in the following weeks to ensure that no further outbreak is detected.

Statement of Acknowledgement:

By enrolling in our program, it is implied that your family has consented and agrees to follow the above health policies.

Family Name _____

Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____