

Health & Wellness Policy for Families THE NEST Group Childcare

The health and safety of the children in our care is always the top priority.

Under “normal “circumstances when there is not a **pandemic** such as **Covid-19**, children would be welcome back to daycare 24-48 hours after experiencing any sick symptoms such as fever, chills, body aches, diarrhea, cough, or sore throat. Children would be welcome back to the centre once they are symptom free. During a pandemic, please **read our Pandemic Policy** for a different approach and more detail on what steps to take if your child is showing any symptoms that could be Covid-19 related.

Please do not send your child to daycare if they have any of the following:

*Chicken pox, discharge from the eye, head lice or nits, hepatitis, impetigo, ringworm, measles, mumps, parasite, pink eye, rash, rubella, scabies, strep throat, tuberculosis, vomiting, whooping cough, hand/foot/mouth disease, any Covid-19 symptoms or any known or suspected communicable diseases. Children must be symptom free and or have a doctor’s note depending on the severity of the case. It will be up to the owner/operator of the centre to decide what steps need to be taken for the child to safely return to the centre.

Medication administered to children outside of centre hours: Please let staff know if your child is taking any medication outside of daycare hours. This information could be very important in the case of an emergency.

Child Immunizations: The Childcare licensing regulation requires licensed childcare programs to have a record of each child’s immunization status. Having a child’s immunization records will help the centre to know who should be excluded from the program in the case that there is ever an outbreak of a communicable disease at the centre. All parents/guardians will be given an immunization records form. Please attach any immunization records that you have for your child.

As also mentioned in the Food And Nutrition Policy, please **DO NOT send any NUTS in your child’s lunch**. Thank you for helping to keep our children and staff safe.

Please note: The health of our staff is extremely important. Staff will get sick or need a day off for personal reasons occasionally. Each staff member will get 7, paid sick days per year. There must always be a staff to child ratio in the childcare centre. The owner/operator of the centre will always do her best to try and find a substitute to cover for a sick employee. But in the case that that doesn’t happen, we may be forced to reduce operational hours or close the centre if we are under-staffed. It is important to know that in this type of situation, parents may be asked to temporarily pull their child out of daycare for a day or 2, or however long we are short staffed. Parents will NOT need to pay for these days if they are asked to pull their children out. Parents will be given a refund if they have already paid for the days that their child must be pulled out of the program for. For up to 8 children, we require 1 teacher. For 9-16 children, we require 2 teachers. For 17-25 children, we require 3 staff. Thank you for your understanding.

