

Operational Policy: Child Illness	Revision Date: July 2016
Policy Status: Working Draft	Applies To: Staff, Supply Staff, Providers, Students, Volunteers and Resource Teachers
Reference: Child Care and Early Years Act, s. 36	Approved By: Marni Flaherty, CEO 

ILLNESS

Policy

A daily observation is made of each child receiving child care before the child begins to associate with other children in order to detect possible symptoms of ill health. If a child appears to be ill, the child is separated from other children and the symptoms of the illness noted in the child's records.

Where a child is separated from other children because of a suspected illness, Today's Family shall ensure that:

- a parent of the child takes the child home; or
- where it is not possible for a parent of the child to take the child home or where it appears that the child requires immediate medical attention, the child is examined by a legally qualified medical practitioner or a nurse registered with the College of Nurses of Ontario.

Procedure

- 1.0 All staff, supply staff, caregivers and volunteers will review the Illness policy and procedure prior to commencing duties and annually thereafter, and sign that they have read it, understand it and agree to it.
- 2.0 Parents of moderately or seriously ill children must be notified immediately of their child's illness.
- 3.0 Today's Family staff, supply staff and providers may care for moderately ill children. A moderately ill child is one who:
 - 3.1. shows evidence of a mild cold;
 - 3.2. has a low grade, stable fever;
 - 3.3. exhibits no signs of weariness.
- 4.0 A moderately ill child must be able to actively participate in the program and show no signs of weariness.
- 5.0 Children who are ill must be separated from the other children and a parent or guardian is to be contacted to take the child home, as stated in the [Child Care and Early Years Act, s. 36](#). By doing this, a child is being **excluded** from the

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program in order to prevent the spread of a communicable or infectious disease to well children or adults.

5.1 Children who are ill must be separated from well children and adults.

5.2 Preferably, the child will be supervised and placed in a separate room with a cot until they can be picked up by the parent or guardian.

- Make the child comfortable.
- Separate toys are given to the child to play with and are disinfected after use

6.0 Exclude a child who has any of the following:

- 6.1. Fever AND a combination of other symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting, etc.
- 6.2. Fever AND a body rash
- 6.3. Diarrhea – two or more liquid stools or a change in the normal pattern of bowel movement (e.g. runny, watery, or bloody stools)
- 6.4. Vomiting – two or more times in last 24 hours
- 6.5. Eye discharge – yellow or white
- 6.6. Severe cough
- 6.7. Yellowish skin or eyes, or “jaundice”
- 6.8. Irritability, continuous crying or requires more attention than can be provided

7.0 Symptoms of ill health will be recorded in the Daily Health Check and an Ill Health Form to monitor illness

8.0 Notice of any contagious/infectious disease will be posted in a common area of the program room.

9.0 A child who has been seriously ill, or is known to have had a contagious/infectious disease, must provide a physician's note attesting to the child's wellness prior to returning to the program.