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## Royal City Cooperative Preschool Policy Manual

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### **POLICY: Sick Child & Notification of Parents Policy** **REVISION DATE: January, 2024**

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To ensure the health of all children, teachers will observe children daily before and during class and association with other children in order to detect possible symptoms of ill health. Under no circumstances should parents bring a child who is showing signs of illness to preschool.

Children presenting with the following symptoms should be excluded from attending classes at RCCP as follows:

- Fever (axilla/armpit) temperature of 37.8°C (100°F) or higher. A fever may be accompanied by general symptoms such as listlessness or excessive sleepiness. Keep the child home until the fever has resolved for 24 hours.
- Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea: Your child should stay home 48 hours after they had nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea and DO NOT have a fever. (The 48 hour clock only starts once the symptoms are improving and the vomiting/diarrhea has stopped.)
- Any other new symptoms (eg. respiratory symptoms, fever, runny/ congested nose, sore throat, headache, extreme tiredness, muscle aches, joint pain, pink eye, decreased/ no appetite). Keep the child home until they do NOT have a fever and their symptoms have resolved or been improving for 24 hours.
  - ❖ Examples of respiratory symptoms include: sore throat, trouble swallowing, coughing, runny nose, trouble breathing, swollen glands, loss of voice and eyes or ear ache.
  - ❖ Other symptoms that prohibit school attendance until resolved are: Infected skin or eyes, an undiagnosed rash, severe itching and/or dry skin on either the body or scalp if caused by head lice, body lice, or scabies; Frequent scratching of body or scalp due to lice, rash, or any other spots that resemble childhood diseases- including ringworm.
- If your child is irritable, continuously crying, or requires more attention than we can provide without hurting the health, safety or well-being of the other children in our care.

- Children with known or suspected reportable or communicable diseases (see attached Appendix)

If a child shows or develops any sign of illness while at school, the teacher will call the parent (or emergency contact) immediately and ask them to come for the child. In the meantime, the child will be isolated from the other children. The school will not give the child any medication at this time.

If the parent or emergency contact is not available to remove the sick child from the school, AND the illness warrants it, a medical practitioner or nurse will be contacted to attend to the child.

If your child is diagnosed with a communicable disease (see attached Appendix), inform the teacher and/or Health Chairperson immediately so that other parents may be appropriately notified. Your child's name will not be posted, but, for example, notice of a case of chicken pox, german measles, meningitis, or other appropriate information will be provided to parents as the situation warrants.

Staff must notify the local Medical Officer of Health (Public Health) immediately when they know that a child enrolled in the child care program has a reportable communicable disease.

Parents of children with special medical needs must provide written instructions to the teacher, signed by the parent or a physician. These instructions are to be filed at the school.

We recommend you review [this tool](#) to help decide if your child is able to attend preschool.

*Please refer to <https://www.ontario.ca/school-screening/> to check if your child can attend school each day.*

## APPENDIX

### COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

**Please visit the Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health Website on Common Infectious Diseases in the link below:**

[https://wdgpublichealth.ca/sites/default/files/childhood\\_illnesses\\_reference\\_guide\\_aodachecked\\_0.pdf](https://wdgpublichealth.ca/sites/default/files/childhood_illnesses_reference_guide_aodachecked_0.pdf)

We recommend you keep your child at home during the infectious period if he/she or a sibling is ill with any of the above communicable diseases. Please abide by the timelines outlined in the public health chart as viewed [here](#).