



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## THE F. M. KIRBY CHILDREN'S CENTER

### SICK CHILD POLICY-COVID-19 rev. 5/14/20

***Promoting and maintaining the health and safety of both children and staff is always a priority, and with Coronavirus currently a concern in our area, strict health protocols must be followed to limit the spread. This policy outlines when children who are showing signs and symptoms of illness must be removed from the center. The F. M. Kirby Children's Center policy regarding illness was developed from CDC guidance, New Jersey laws and the Madison Board of Health requiring exclusion for contagious diseases that could be spread at school. This policy must be enforced for the comfort and safety of all our students. The guidelines for sending/keeping a sick child home include:***

1. Temperature of 100.4°F or higher (without the use of fever reducers).
2. Exposure to someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19. (Must remain on quarantine at home for 2 weeks and consult with the Madison Health Department for further instructions.)
3. Vomiting - 2 or more episodes. Children should be home for 24 hours after vomiting.
4. Diarrhea - twice within an hour. Return to school when 24 hours pass without diarrheal stool.
5. Suspected ear or eye infections
  - a. infant crying and pulling on ear
  - b. complaint of ear pain
  - c. yellowish skin or eyes
  - d. red eyes with discharge
6. Sore throat and/or severe coughing. Children with strep throat need to be out of school at least 24 hours after medication has been started and he/she is fever free for 24 hours.
7. Undiagnosed rash (other than diaper rash)
  - a. weeping and/or bleeding skin lesions - untreated by M.D.
  - b. infected, untreated skin patches
8. Asthma or severe upper respiratory infection unless parent provides evidence that child is under physician's care.
9. Untreated scabies, lice or ring worm

#### **IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND:**

1. COVID-19 presents with signs and symptoms that may be indistinguishable from much more common respiratory viruses. If a community (or more specifically, a school) has cases of COVID19, local health officials will help identify those individuals and will follow up on next steps. Schools are not expected to screen students or staff to identify cases of COVID-19. • Students with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing will be placed away from others and may

be asked to wear a face mask until they can be sent home. If a mask is not tolerated by the student, health office staff will use proper personal protective equipment.

2. Sometimes children with a minor illness do not belong in a group setting. If a child is unable to participate in regular classroom activities or requires the constant attention of a staff person, that child needs to be at home.
3. When a child develops a fever of 100.4°F or greater while at Kirby, he or she will be brought to the isolation room located downstairs and will stay with a staff member until a parent is able to pick the child up. **PLEASE** ensure that you have a plan in place so that your child can be picked up within 60 minutes when ill.
4. We are not diagnosticians—your child’s doctor must determine the type and severity of an illness. Our decision to send home is based on signs and symptoms, and changes in appetite, activity level or behavior.

#### **CHILD OUT SICK MAY RETURN TO CENTER:**

1. When temperature is normal for 72 hours (without fever reducing medications).
2. When child is symptom-free or a licensed M.D. indicates that the child poses no serious health risk to themselves or other children.
3. If a child has been ill for 3 or more days, it is necessary to bring a doctor’s note upon returning to the center.
4. If a child was being quarantined for Coronavirus, or isolated for symptoms of coronavirus, the F.M. Kirby Children’s Center will work with the Madison Health Department to determine when it is safe for the child to return to school.

**It is very important you have alternative care for your child when she/he is sick.** We understand that it can be very frustrating when a child is sent home because of illness, but your child will be back to full health quicker and we have a responsibility to protect the health of other children here at Kirby.