

---

## Sample Sick Policy for Family Child Care

---

Here are some guidelines we follow at Family Child Care for identifying and determining exclusion due to illness. These are taken from the ABC's of Safe and Healthy Child Care, A Handbook for Child Care Providers, CDC, 1996.

### Symptoms Requiring Removal of a Child from the Child Care Setting

- ⇒ Fever\* AND Sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, earache, irritability or confusion.
- ⇒ Diarrhea — runny, watery or bloody stools.
- ⇒ Vomiting — two or more times in a 24 hour period.
- ⇒ Body rash with fever.
- ⇒ Sore throat with fever and swollen glands.
- ⇒ Severe coughing — color change, high pitched whooping sounds after coughing.
- ⇒ Eye discharge — thick pus or mucus, or pink eye.
- ⇒ Yellowish skin or eyes.
- ⇒ Excessive nasal discharge — infants and toddlers will be separated from others (in a play pen or high chair) to prevent the spread of nasal discharge to other children, rugs, upholstery, fabrics, and other areas not easily disinfected, etc., until they can be picked up to go home.\*
- ⇒ Child is irritable, continuously crying, or requires more attention than I can provide without harming the health and safety of the other children in my care.

\*Fever: I will exclude a child who is acting sick and has a temperature equal to or greater than: 102 degrees F. rectally (only parent will test in the rectum), 101 degrees F. orally (in the mouth/parent tested only), 100 degrees F. axillary (in the arm pit), or a temperature measured with an aural thermometer (in the ear/parent tested only) that corresponds to the 102 degrees F. in the rectum or 101 degrees F. in the mouth

*I will exclude children with fever and behavior as described above unless a health professional says the child may be in child care (per note from doctor), and the child seems well enough to me to participate in my program.*

— Please keep your sick child at home whenever possible —

— Let's do all we can to stop the cycle of illness and re-infection —

Reminder: Fees are still due for your child when they are home sick because a space is reserved for your child and care is scheduled (per Parent/Provider Agreement). However, payment is optional for days I may have to close because of my illness or the illness of one of my children.

**Therefore, I urge all parents to keep sick little ones at home (any sign of diarrhea, vomiting, fever) to prevent closure due to illness.**