

### **21.3 COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

If your child appears to be ill and/or is contagious (i.e., runny nose that will not stop, coughing continuously, sneezing, fever, vomiting, diarrhea, etc.) please keep your child home. If your child has a cold and the child's symptoms are unmanageable and/or the child's behavior has changed, we ask that you keep the child home to weather the cold. We understand this may be an inconvenience for some families, however, we are thinking of the children, their comfort and health, along with other's health at the center.

Parents are required to pick up an ill child within 45 minutes of notification by phone. If a parent is reached, but cannot pick their child up within 45 minutes, it becomes the parent's responsibility to arrange for alternate pick up with someone listed on the child's emergency contact form. The staff will not continue to call those listed on the emergency contact list once a parent is reached. If a parent cannot be reached, the staff will begin to call the people listed on the emergency contact form, until arrangements can be made for the child to be picked up.

Children will be excluded from participation in the program if they exhibit symptoms of any communicable disease. They will not be permitted to return to the program until they are no longer contagious. Guidelines for determining the contagious period for a specific illness are based on the recommendations by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Children must present a doctor's note stating they are no longer contagious and can return to the program. Teddy Bear College, Inc. reserves the right to refuse to allow a child to return if the center Director or designee believes the child to be too ill to participate in the program.

**Children excluded from the program for 24 hours or more due to illness includes but not limited to:**

- A fever of 100 degrees fahrenheit – may not return to the program until they are fever free, without fever reducing medication, for 24 hours
- Lose bowels or diarrhea which occur 2 or more times in a 24 hours period of time, under the discretion of the Director
- Vomiting
- A skin rash, excluding diaper rash.
- Head Lice – child must be nit-free to return to school
- Pink Eye – an eye showing redness or discharge

If a physician has prescribed your child medication and/or you are giving over the counter medication to your child, staff at Teddy Bear College can administer it. Parents need to fill out the medication form, in detail for the duration for the administering of medication. Note: Over the counter medication will not be given to a child at Teddy Bear College if the child has a fever while at the center.

If your child will be absent due to illness, we request that you notify the center. This enables our faculty to keep track of any illnesses and inform families if a child is sick with a communicable disease. Information will only be shared with faculty on a "need to know" basis. All child's personal information will be kept confidential.