

FIRST PRES NURSERY SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY

We know you share in our concerns in pursuit of a healthy environment for our children. However, we all have difficulty at times determining when a child should remain at home. A general guideline of “would I want my child exposed to a classmate who has these symptoms” is a great place to start.

Fever

When a child has a fever (100.4), he should remain at home. If a child develops a fever at school, he will be sent home. If a child is recovering from an illness, he should be free of fever for at least 24 hours (without fever-reducing medication) before coming to school.

Medication

When a child has been on an antibiotic for at least 24 hours and is 72 hours fever free, then the child is considered non-contagious to others. Our staff CANNOT administer any type of medication. We may apply diaper ointment if we have your signed permission. We may administer an Epi-pen in case of an emergency if we have a parent’s permission and a current prescription.

Colds and Runny Noses

If a child has a cold, he is contagious and should not come to school. At times a runny nose may indicate an allergy only. If this is the case, the discharge from the nose is clear. However, if it is yellow or green, infection may be present, and the child should not be brought to school.

Allergies

Please alert your child’s teacher and the Director of any allergies your child has. If an epi-pen has been prescribed, be sure to provide one to the teachers. It must be in its original box and within its expiration date.

Coughs

Coughs can spread infection very easily. If your child is coughing as a result of cold or bronchial infection, he is contagious for as long as the cough is moist or fever persists. If the infection is bacterial and he has been on antibiotics for 24 to 36 hours and is fever free for 72 hours, then he is not likely contagious. In all cases involving coughs, the child’s comfort is a factor in whether to remain at home.

Ear Infections

Ear infections are frequent in young children. Although they may not be contagious, a child should have completed 24 hours of antibiotic and be comfortable before coming to school.

Sores

Do not send your child with open, draining sores. Wait until they have scabbed.

Diarrhea

Diarrhea is defined as four to five bowel movements in an eight hour period. This can be caused by infection, diet, teething, or medication. If a child has diarrhea for any reason, he should not come to school or parents will be called to come for him if he is already there. Although frequent bowel movements may not represent a contagious condition, the percentage of time that the teacher spends with diapering/bathing is a consideration when there are other children under the teacher’s care.

All First Pres Nursery School Wellness policies and procedures were developed based on information from the CDC and SCDHEC regarding these 4 actions: promoting behavior to reduce spread of illnesses, maintaining healthy environments, maintaining healthy operations, and preparing for when someone becomes sick. In order to implement these 4 actions, we will practice these simple steps:

- More frequent hand washing
- Limiting people entering the classrooms, parents will drop off at the door of their child's classroom
- Reduced student to teacher ratios
- Increased sanitation of all shared spaces, items and toys used
- Require any children or staff with respiratory illness symptoms to return home and stay home until they are symptom free and/or fever free for at least 72 hours.