

## **LITTLE ACORNS SICK POLICY**

It is our job to inspect the health of each child, each day, for signs of illness. If a child is sick, we may have to send him or her home immediately. Diarrhea, vomiting, undiagnosed rash, fever, irritability, excessive sleepiness and/or change of behavior are all signs of illness that may cause a child to be refused care for the day or sent home early from care.

We will call you and tell you to pick up your child if any of these is true:

- The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in daily routines and activities;
- The illness requires more care than the staff can provide without compromising the health or safety of the other children; or
- The child has any of the following conditions:
  - Temperature: oral 100.4 F or greater (or 99.4 F auxiliary or 101.4 F rectally)
  - Signs and symptoms of possible severe illness (such as unusual lethargy, uncontrolled coughing, irritability, persistent crying, difficult breathing and/or wheezing)
  - An increased number and/or abnormally loose stools (not contained in the diaper) in the previous 24 hours
  - Vomiting
  - Rash with fever or behavior change
  - Undiagnosed rashes
  - Head lice- we have a no nit policy!
  - Notable change in behavior
  - Communicable disease which requires exclusion (see the director)
  - Ear ache
  - Chills
  - Pain

**If an illness is going around the center and your child shows signs of the illness, we will call you to pick up your child regardless of the above standard guidelines.**

A parent or legal guardian should pick up within an hour. If you cannot be reached we will notify the person designated on the emergency card. If you cannot pick up immediately, you will need to get your emergency back up to pick your child up.

When a child is sent home, he/she may not return to care the following day AND must be symptom-free for 24 hours. If your child is seen by the doctor and put on antibiotic they must be on the antibiotic for a full 24 hours before returning to school. Even then we reserve the right to refuse care if we feel the child may be compromising the health and safety of others or they require one-on-one care that we cannot provide.

If you keep your child home sick for the day, please call and inform the center so we may post an infectious disease notice.

If you have any questions please see the office staff for assistance.