

HEALTH POLICIES

Our Center will be accommodating only well infants, toddlers, pre-schoolers and after-schoolers. We will not be accommodating mildly and/or moderately ill children.

Requirement:

Each child attending the Center must have a Child Medical Statement completed by the child's physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner, which includes verification that the child is free from contagious and communicable diseases and current on all age-appropriate immunizations. This examination must be within the last 90 days of the time of enrollment.

It is the responsibility of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to keep the child's immunization record current. It is imperative that the Center be notified when the child received an immunization in order to keep the medical records current.

Each Staff Member must also submit a statement from a physician, which indicates they are physically and mentally fit to provide child care. This statement must include the fact that the person is free from communicable diseases and include the results of a tuberculin test performed within the past 12 months preceding employment. This statement must be completed every two years.

A signed Medical Emergency Consent Form is required to be on file at the Center before a child can be accepted. This Form states the name and phone number of the child's physician, as well as designating the preferred hospital, if any situation requires hospitalization. This Form also authorized Rattles to Reading Child Care, Inc. to seek emergency medical treatment for a child in the event the parent/guardian cannot be reached. We must also have on file the name and phone number of any persons authorized to contact and/or pick up the child in case of illness or emergency.

Daily Health Procedures:

A daily health check will be performed on each child by the Director or child's Teacher for any recognizable symptoms of illness, communicable diseases, child abuse or maltreatment. Any suspected case of child abuse, based on concrete evidence, will be reported to the State Child Abuse Hot Line. The Staff will be instructed to recognize symptoms of illness as well as how to minimize infections through in-service training in these areas.

To protect the welfare of the other children, we must ask that children be kept at home if he/she has the following symptoms:

- ✓ Temperature greater than 101 degrees
- ✓ Nausea and vomiting
- ✓ Diarrhea
- ✓ Eye infection (pink eye)
- ✓ Unidentified skin rash
- ✓ Respiratory problems
- ✓ Lice
- ✓ Sore throat
- ✓ Ear ache/draining ear
- ✓ Unusual fatigue and/or irritability

Daily Health Procedures: (cont'd)

Parents/guardians are asked to assume the responsibility of keeping a child at home if there is any doubt about the child's fitness to participate in the activities in the Center. Not only is it unfair to the healthy children and Staff, it is also unfair to the sick child who needs special care and rest. Whenever a child has been exposed to a communicable disease (e.g., chicken pox, strep throat, head lice, etc.) we request that it be reported to the Director so that we may be able to maintain a healthy center.

Notification of contagious diseases will be posted on the bulletin board located in the front vestibule.

Medical/Illness Emergency Plan:

Should a child become ill while at the Center, the parent/guardian will be contacted to pick them up, during which time we will provide a place to rest quietly that is in view of Supervision. We ask that arrangements be made to pick up a child within the hour. If the parent/guardian cannot be contacted, we will attempt to contact the person that has been authorized to pick up your child.

Although we will strive to provide a safe environment for the children, everyday bumps and bruises cannot be completely prevented. There may be times when medical treatment will be necessary for a child. Every attempt will be made to contact the parent/guardian first (it is vital that we are notified of any change in parent's/guardian's schedules). If the parent/guardian cannot be reached, we will contact the person that has been designated to be contacted in case of an emergency situation.

Medications – Non Prescription and Prescription:

If a child requires a topical ointment or skin lotion, the appropriate Medication Dispensing Form must be filled out, which designates the name of the medicine, for what purpose the medication is being used and when the medication is to be administered. The medication must be in the original container with the manufacturer's label and directions for administration. The container must also be labeled with the child's complete name.

By New York State Mandate, as of April 1, 2004, if a child requires a prescription or over the counter medication, the medication may only be given upon written order from the child's physician, stating that the child care provider may administer the medication. The written order must include the child's full name, dosage, for what purpose the medication is being used and the dates and times to be administered. **A prescription is not acceptable.** The prescription must be in the original container and labeled with the child's complete name. If the physician does not sign and authorize the medication, we will not be able to administer it.

ALL MEDICATIONS MUST BE GIVEN TO THE CHILD'S TEACHER. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE MEDICATIONS IN DIAPER BAGS OR CUBBIES.

Allergies:

We will request the parents to notify the Center of any allergies that their child has. It is important for the parent/guardian to familiarize the Staff with any specific symptoms of allergic reactions, so that the Staff may be alert to administer any necessary treatment. If treatment involves medication, it must be detailed by the child's physician in writing. These allergies will be documented in the child's file and clearly posted in the classroom. A health plan dealing with the specifics of the child's allergy/medical concern must be completed and will be kept on file.