

THE PARKSIDE MONTESSORI SCHOOL

53 norwood avenue, upper montclair, nj 07043 (973) 509-7379

ILLNESS POLICY

Dear Parkside Parents:

We have been instructed by the New Jersey State Division of Children and Family Services to clearly state policy regarding illness and our students. Children should not be sent to school if they are sick. This means that if a child is fighting any kind of infection, he or she should not attend school, as most childhood infections are highly contagious. If a child comes to school sick, or becomes ill in school, the state requires us, and we as well believe that it is our obligation, to immediately contact the parent or emergency contact so that the child can be taken home and the spread of infection is limited. Also, a child who has been absent due to illness should not return to school until he or she is completely well (this also means that the child's temperature must remain normal for **at least 72 hours** before he/she returns. Please refer to the attached fever policy).

The illnesses we most commonly see include head and chest cold (which cause sneezing, coughing, and a runny nose), nausea, diarrhea, sore throats, headaches, and earaches. However, please refer of the back page containing information that the State has given to us titled, "Policy on the Management of Communicable Diseases" for other symptoms and a list of communicable diseases.

**If a child has a fever, how long do they have to remain home
before returning to Parkside?**

Fever (100.4 or higher) is a symptom of COVID-19. Individuals with symptoms of COVID-19 who have tested positive or have not been tested should stay home and away from others until at least 10 days have passed since their symptoms first appeared, AND they have had no fever for at least 72 hours (three full days without the use of medicine that reduces fever) AND... other symptoms have improved (for example, symptoms of cough or shortness of breath have improved).

Individuals who have symptoms and have tested negative should stay home and away from others until 72 hours after their fever has ended without the use of fever reducing medications.

We thank you for your attention to this important matter.

*****If your child is absent for any reason, please CALL to notify us.*****

POLICY ON THE MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

If a child exhibits any of the following symptoms, he/she should not attend school. If such symptoms occur at school, the child will be removed from the classroom, and you will be called to take him/her home.

- Severe pain or discomfort
- Acute diarrhea
- Episodes of acute vomiting
- Elevated oral temperature of 101.5 degrees Fahrenheit
- Sore throat or severe coughing
- Yellow eyes or jaundice skin
- Red eyes with discharge
- Infected, untreated skin patches
- Difficult or rapid breathing
- Skin lesions that are weeping or bleeding
- Skin rashes lasting longer than 24 hours
- Swollen joints
- Visibly enlarged lymph nodes
- Stiff neck
- Blood in urine

Once the child is symptom free, or has a physician's note stating that he/she no longer poses a serious health risk to himself/herself or others, he/she may return to the center.

TABLE OF EXCLUDABLE COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

If a child contracts any of the following diseases, please report it to us immediately. The child may NOT return to school without a physician's note stating that the child presents no risk to himself/herself or others.

Respiratory Illnesses

Chicken Pox

German Measles*

Hemophilus Influenzae*

Measles*

Meningococcus*

Mumps*

Strep Throat

Tuberculosis*

Whooping Cough*

Gastrointestinal Illnesses

Giardia Lamblia*

Hepatitis A*

Salmonella*

Shigella*

Contact Illnesses

Impetigo

Lice

Scabies

*Reportable diseases that must be reported to the health department by the center.

If a child is exposed to any excludable disease at the center, parents will be notified in writing.