

Child Illness

We are required to follow the guidelines outlined in the "Communicable Diseases Summary", set forth by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH). This is "A Guide for School Health Services Personnel, Child Care Providers and Youth Camps" regarding child illness.

Common signs of illness in a child include fever (further defined below), sore throat, Pink Eye, rash, runny nose or green discharge from the nose, diarrhea, vomiting, etc. A child showing signs of illness should not be sent to Clubhouse Kids for care. If we notice that a child is becoming ill or develops a rash on their body while at Clubhouse Kids, we will contact the parents at once.

We also follow the DHMH definition of a child's fever as the following body temperatures (or above), considered to be equivalent to each other, but obtained from different body sites:

- an axillary-determined (armpit-obtained) temperature higher than 99.5 F
- an orally-determined (mouth-obtained) temperature higher than 100.0 F
- a tympanically-determined (in-the-ear-obtained) temperature higher than 100.5 F
- a temporally-determined (forehead-obtained) temperature higher than 101.0 F

If a child is sent home from school or Clubhouse Kids due to any of these symptoms or illness, the child must remain symptom free for a complete 24-hour period WITHOUT the help of medication before returning to Clubhouse Kids. This 24-hour period should begin at the time the child is sent home, or at the time the symptoms last appeared, whichever is last/latest.

Parents should notify the center Director at once if their child has been diagnosed as having a contagious disease/illness. The Director will notify parents of children where possible contact causing infection or illness transfer may have occurred.

For extremely contagious illnesses such as Pink Eye, Strep throat, Hand Foot & Mouth, and rashes, the child must remain out of the center until a physician has approved a return to child care, and has provided a written doctor's note stating such, as well as stating a diagnosis of the illness being treated. The physician may have begun administration of medication and required the child to remain out of care for an appropriate time frame depending on the diagnosed illness.

MSDE-OCC requires that we not re-admit a child after an absence of 3-days or more due to illness, without first receiving a doctor-signed Clubhouse Kids "Return to Care Form".

If a child is sent home from school or from Clubhouse Kids due to head lice, the child cannot return to Clubhouse Kids until the center Director or school nurse has checked the child and deemed the child nit-free. Clubhouse Kids has a "No Nit" policy, as do most public and private schools. Please check your child's school for their policies & procedures regarding head lice.

If your child is on any medication, whether a short-term or long-term medication, please make sure the Director is aware. Medicine often causes behavioral changes in children. Likewise, if your child has any allergies, please make sure that the Director is informed of the condition.

For children attending care at an in-school-located Clubhouse Kids child care center, in any case where the host-school policy and Clubhouse Kids policy differ, the Clubhouse Kids policy will trump the host-school policy for children in Clubhouse Kids care.