

KIRK Preschool

Kirk Preschool Illness Policy

At Kirk Preschool, the health and safety of our teaching staff and families are taken seriously. We ask our teachers and staff to stay at home if they are ill. If you are not sure whether or not your child should come, feel free to call the preschool. As a general rule, your child should stay home if they experience these symptoms:

1. Fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.
2. Diarrhea that occurs and prevents your child from full participation in school activities.
3. Vomiting that occurs and prevents your child from full participation in school activities.

Your child should be free of all these symptoms for at least 24 hours without medication, before returning to school. This will always require them to miss at least one full day of school.

In order for our school to remain healthy and stay open, it is important to report any of the above symptoms to the preschool. Several illnesses are especially contagious in young children, and we ask that you keep your child at home until you can seek medical diagnosis:

- **Signs/symptoms of severe illness, including:** lethargy, uncontrolled coughing, inexplicable irritability or persistent crying, difficulty breathing, and/or wheezing
- **Persistent abdominal pain,** (continues more than 2 hours) or intermittent pain associated with fever or other signs/symptoms of illness
- **Mouth sores with drooling,** unless a health care provider determines the sores are not contagious
- **Rash,** until a physician determines that these symptoms do not indicate a communicable disease
- **Pink eye** (conjunctivitis), until after treatment has been initiated for 24 hours
- **Head lice,** from the end of the day until after first treatment
- **Scabies,** until after treatment has been completed
- **Tuberculosis,** until a health care provider states that the child is on appropriate therapy and can attend childcare
- **Impetigo,** until 24 hours after treatment has been initiated
- **Hand Foot and Mouth,** sores have dried and crusted and no fever
- **Strep throat,** until 24 hours after initial antibiotic treatment and cessation of fever
- **Chicken pox,** until all sores have dried and crusted (usually 6 days)
- **Pertussis,** until 5 days of appropriate antibiotic treatment has been completed
- **Mumps,** until 9 days after onset of symptoms

- **Hepatitis A virus**, until 1 week after onset of illness
- **Measles**, until 4 days after onset of rash
- **Rubella**, until 6 days after onset of rash
- **Unspecified respiratory tract illness** accompanied by another illness which requires exclusion
- **Herpes simplex**, with uncontrollable drooling
- **Influenza**_
- **Covid-19**, Kirk Preschool will follow to CDC guidelines which currently states...
“children will remain at home for 10 days, after which if symptom-free, they may return to school.”

If a classroom has a confirmed case of any of the above illnesses, we will notify all families in the classroom immediately so they may make the decision to attend or stay home.

What we do to limit the spread of illnesses

The Kirk Preschool has put several measures in place to limit the spread of common illnesses.

We follow the Oklahoma Good Health Handbook to help guide our decision when it comes to children remaining at school when exhibiting symptoms of illness.

Kirk Preschool teachers and staff are trained annually in Infectious Disease Control. It teaches good handwashing hygiene, and maintains that proper handwashing throughout the day is the key factor in preventing the spread of germs. Our staff sanitizes and disinfects surfaces and common areas daily, and washes manipulatives and toys to prevent spreading of germs that cause child-related illnesses.

Kirk Preschool highly encourages families to call when their child is absent due to sickness. Should there be an occurrence of highly contagious illness, we will notify the families of the classroom affected immediately, so they can make a decision whether or not their child should attend.

There is no greater joy than experiencing children learning and growing in a safe environment with their friends. At Kirk Preschool, it is our privilege to provide the healthiest learning environment for the children and families we serve.