

## HEALTH CARE POLICY

### State requirements

By law, each child admitted to Discovery Preschool proof of all age appropriate vaccinations. In addition, your child's physician must complete a MA School Health Form within the first month that your child attends Discovery.

### Preventative Health Care

We wish to reduce the spread of illness among our staff and students. We ask that you help us by keeping your child away from the school if you suspect he/she may have a contagious illness. Please consider your options for alternative care so that you will be ready when your child is too sick to attend Discovery.

Your child should not come to the school if he/she:

- \* Has a temperature
- \* Has a fresh cold
- \* Has diarrhea/vomiting(1 or more accidents)
- \* Has untreated impetigo or rash of unknown origin
- \* Has untreated head lice
- \* Has untreated conjunctivitis
- \* Has untreated chicken pox
- \* Has an untreated strep infection

Please call Discovery if your child will not be able to attend school due to illness. It is important to report a contagious illness to us immediately so that other parents can be notified.

### Policy of Care of Mildly Ill Children

The child who is mildly ill will be isolated from other children and kept as comfortable as possible until parent or back-up contact comes to pick the child up within one hour of our call.

### Procedure for dealing with a Child Who Has Already Been to the School and Exhibits Symptoms Requiring Exclusion from the School

The child will be isolated and a parent or back-up contact will be notified

and expected to come as soon as possible.

Special Precautions for Gastro-Intestinal, Respiratory, Skin or Direct Contact Infections:

The special precautions are as follows:

- \* Careful hand washing technique at all times
- \* Dispose of all contaminated articles in a plastic bag
- \* Child's personal property to be sent home in a plastic bag
- \* Disinfect any contaminated daycare property with disinfectant solution

Policies for When the Excluded Child May Return to the School:

Your child may return to school:

- \* When you present a doctor's note stating that child has been treated and is no longer contagious
- \* 24 hours after starting an antibiotic medication, this includes antibiotic eye ointments and topical antibiotics
- \* When the child is well enough to participate in the school's daily curriculum

Prescription and Non Prescription Medication

This requires both physician and parental permission. The medication must be in the original container, with the child's name, name of medication, direction for administering and storage requirements. In addition, a completed and signed prescription form must be given to the school before any medication can be given. Prescription forms are available at Discovery and are valid for 1 year. A written record of all medication administered will be documented in the child's file. With written permission from a health consultant, a parent may train the staff in the implementation of a child's health care plan.

Topical Non-Prescription Medication:

Requires written statement from parent listing specific medications (topical only) and criteria for administering, the written permission is valid for one year from the date of signature.

Keep Us Informed About Your Child's Health:

If your child is taking medication at home, please let us know. Children may have reactions to medications which can affect their behavior. Please talk to us about your child's physical and emotional health. The more informed we are about your child, helps us to better meet the needs of your child.

## Plan for identifying and Protecting Children with Allergies/Health Care Needs

All allergies/health care needs are reported to the school on the required medical record. Any allergy/health care needs are then posted in the kitchen with the child's name and reaction to a particular substance.

### Procedures for Emergencies and Illness:

If immediate medical attention is needed, we will contact an EMT by calling 911, as well as the parent. If the EMT feels the child should be taken by ambulance to the hospital before a parent or back-up contact can arrive, then the child's teacher will go with the child to the hospital and remain with the child until the parent arrives. If neither the parent nor back-up contact can be notified, we will contact the family physician. The child's file will go with the teacher.

### Emergency procedures for Field Trips:

In the case of an emergency while on a field trip, the teacher will use a cellular phone to call 911. The parent or back-up contact will also be called using the phone and informed of the nature of the injury/illness as well as ongoing treatment.