

## **Haddam Cooperative Nursery School Sickness Policy**

**When to keep your child at home:** To protect the children, we ask that parents cooperate by keeping sick children at home if they have experienced any of the following symptoms within the past 24 hours. *(These are merely guidelines; please follow your instinct if you feel your child should not attend school due to an illness.)*

- Fever above 100 degrees (F)
- Unexplained Rash
- Vomiting 2 or more times in 24 hours
- Any drainage or discharge from eyes, ears, open sores or green fluid from nose
- Tiredness that prevents normal play
- Headache that prevents normal play
- Wheezing when taking a breath
- Sores on the skin
- Signs of a newly developing cold
- Diarrhea that prevents normal play

It is very important that parents report any communicable/contagious diseases to the teachers immediately so that other parents may be notified of possible exposure, symptoms and treatment. Confidentiality is respected at all times.

### **Notify the teacher if your child has:**

- Chicken pox
- Head Lice
- Hand, foot and mouth disease
- Strep throat
- Conjunctivitis "Pink Eye"
- Ringworm

Or any other communicable disease. It is always better to err on the side of caution and let HCNS and your doctor's know of any concerns you may have.

### **In the event that a child demonstrates any signs or symptoms of any of the above, the following actions will occur:**

- Parent's will be called and notified to pick up the child from the school within one hour (or as soon as reasonably possible);
- Staff will make every attempt to clean toys and surfaces to prevent the spread of germs or illness;
- Every attempt will be made to keep ill child comfortable while awaiting the parents arrival, a cot may be used so the child can rest quietly;

- If illness is that of suspected communicable/contagious disease, all classroom parents will be notified while simultaneously maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of the ill child.

### **When can my child return to school?**

Children should be **fever or symptom free** for 24 hours prior to returning to school. When the illness requires an antibiotic, the child may return to school after 24 hours of the first dose of the antibiotic, provided they are feeling well enough to participate. This will help protect against of the spread of illness as well as give the child time to fully recover so that they can participate fully in classroom activities upon their return.

**Head Lice:** Head Lice are common among young children as they often put their heads together during play allowing the lice walk from one head to the next. This does not reflect standards of hygiene; they are just as willing to live in clean or dirty hair.

If you notice living, moving lice on your child, all family members should be checked and treated at the same time with an over-the-counter remedy such as Nix, or whatever is recommended by your family physician. You will usually need to repeat application in 7-10 days after the first application. Check all heads a day or two after the second treatment. If you still find living, moving lice, consult with the school health consultant or your pediatrician's office. If a child does have an active case of head lice, **he or she may return to school after one treatment.**