



## UPDATES TO SICK POLICY TO INCLUDE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, *Effective May 2020*

Due to the increased health risks to staff and children in program during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Kids Co. made updates to the child illness policy. The goal of these updates is to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and have clear expectations and guidelines in place if there is an exposure in our child care community.

### **ILLNESS AND SYMPTOMS:**

Children must remain home and will not be permitted in program if they meet any of the conditions below:

- **Children are not permitted on site if they:**
  - Are showing [signs of COVID-19](#)
  - Have been in close contact with someone who is confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19 within the last 14 days
  - Are at [high risk](#) due to certain health conditions
  - Child had travelled and is recommended to quarantine by local, state, or [federal government based on their travel location](#)
- **If they exhibit the following symptoms:**
  - Fever of 100°F or more
  - Diarrhea, more than one loose stool per day.
  - Vomiting, twice or more in the past 24 hours.
  - Rash, any not associated with heat or allergic reactions to medicine.
  - Drainage from the eye, redness of eyelid lining, swelling and discharge of pus.
  - Appearance/behavior, unusually tired, pale, lack of appetite, difficult to wake, confused, irritable.
  - Sore throat, especially with fever or swollen glands.
  - Head lice, nits or scabies.
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - ***Or at least two of these symptoms:***
    - Fever
    - Sore Throat
    - Chills
    - Repeated shaking with chills
    - Muscle pain
    - Headache
    - New loss of taste or smell
- **If your child is too sick to go outside, your child is too sick to come to Kids Co.**

### **Child's guidelines for return to program after symptoms:**

If a healthcare provider recommends a different length of time a child must remain away from program compared to time outlined below, families must follow whichever length of time is longest.

- **Returning to a child care facility after symptoms of COVID-19:**
  - These symptoms include: Cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, or at least two of the following symptoms: Fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, new loss of taste or smell
  - A staff member or child who has signs of suspected or confirmed COVID-19 can return to the child care facility:

## UPDATES TO SICK POLICY TO INCLUDE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, *Effective May 2020*

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery – defined as no fever without the use of medications and improvement in respiratory signs like cough and shortness of breath;

### **AND**

- At least 7 days have passed since signs first appeared.
- **Returning to program after suspected close contact or actual close contact to someone with COVID-19:**
  - If a child is not sick, they should watch their health for signs of fever, cough, and shortness of breath during the 14 day quarantine period. Quarantine should begin after the last day they were in close contact with the sick person with COVID-19. They should not go to work, child care, school, or public places for 14 days.
- **Returning to Program after non COVID-19 Symptoms or illness:**
  - Children must be free of below symptoms for at least 24 hours before return to program:
    - Diarrhea, more than one loose stool per day.
    - Vomiting, twice or more in the past 24 hours.
    - Rash, any not associated with heat or allergic reactions to medicine.
    - Drainage from the eye, redness of eyelid lining, swelling and discharge of pus.
    - Appearance/behavior, unusually tired, pale, lack of appetite, difficult to wake, confused, irritable.
    - Sore throat, with no other COVID-19 symptoms
    - Head lice, nits or scabies.

### **ILLNESS DURING PROGRAM:**

If a child exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 or any other illness while at the center, they will be isolated from the rest of the group until they are picked up.

Kids Co. requires students with symptoms of illness to be **picked up within 45 minutes** of the family being notified. Please ensure that there is someone available to pick your child up within the 45 minute time frame, so as to not jeopardize the health of the child, or other children and staff in the center. Inability to have your child picked up within the 45 minute time frame may result in removal from the program. This includes if Kids Co. must unexpectedly or temporarily close a location.

### **COMMUNICATING ABSENCES AND HEALTH TO KIDS CO.**

If your child is going to be absent from Kids Co. for any reason, please contact Kids Co. as soon as possible. This will prevent removing staff from program to search for, and locate your child. Families may be charged a **\$10 locator fee** for failing to notify Kids Co. of your child's absence.

We appreciate your support and understanding surrounding Kids Co. illness policies. We ask that families openly and honestly communicate with Kids Co. regarding their child(ren) and family health. We want to work together as a team to stop the spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases and/or illnesses. **If at any point during care a child in program exhibits symptoms or has been exposed to someone who has tested positive to COVID-19, families must notify us immediately.** Kids Co. is required by Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) to track student absences from program, including absences due to illness, COVID-19, or other communicable diseases.

### **DAILY HEALTH SCREENINGS**

**UPDATES TO SICK POLICY TO INCLUDE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**, *Effective May 2020*

Upon arrival, kids and staff will undergo a daily health check that includes a temperature check and answering a few health questions. Any child or staff who does not pass the daily health check will not be permitted in program and will need to follow specific illness protocols based on their symptoms. **We ask that families check temperatures at home before coming to program.** If your child has a temperature or other COVID-19 symptoms they **must** remain home. The degree and frequency of daily health checks may change as advised by King County Public Health, WA Dept. of Health, DCYF, and the CDC.

**PROGRAM CLOSURE DUE TO ILLNESS OR EXPOSURE:**

In the event that Kids Co. is informed of an exposure to COVID-19, we will close the program in accordance with Public Health and Department of Health. **All families must pick up their children within 45 minutes of being notified of program closure.** Length of closure time will be determined based on Public Health recommendations. Kids Co. will notify all families if their child has been exposed to COVID-19 at a Kids Co. facility and communicate any recommendations from Public Health. In the event of a closure, Kids Co. will not refund families tuition for time closed due to a COVID-19 exposure or any other disease or illness closure as directed by Public Health, Department of Health, or other authorized agency.

---

By signing below I confirm that I have received and the updated Kids Co. illness policy including revisions specific to the COVID-19 pandemic

---

*Child(ren) Name(s)*

---

*Parent/Guardian Signature*

*Date*