

## SCC Sick Policy

We understand that it is challenging for parents and guardians to miss work. However, exclusion from SCC programs may be necessary to reduce the transmission of illness in our school community. Mild illnesses are common among young children and infections are often spread before the onset of any symptoms.

### If Your Child is Sick

If your child presents with any of the symptoms or behaviors below, we ask you to keep your child home for your child's comfort and to reduce the risk of infection. If these symptoms or behaviors begin while your child is at SCC, you will be called and required to pick up your child as soon as possible, no later than one hour from notification.

- Conjunctivitis, also called "Pink Eye"
- Scabies, head lice, or other infestations
- Any rash suspicious of a contagious childhood disease
- Constant nasal discharge
- Consistent productive cough
- Diarrhea, stools with blood or mucus, and/or uncontrolled, unformed stools that cannot be contained in a diaper/underwear or toilet.
- Vomiting
- Fever (temperature of or above 100.4F)
- Illness that prevents the child from participating comfortably in program activities including outdoor time
- Illness that results in greater need for care than our educators can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children.

### Return to SCC

Children may return to SCC when:

- They are able to participate comfortably in all usual program activities, including outdoor time.
- Their symptoms have resolved or significantly improved
- They are free of fever, vomiting and diarrhea for a full 48 hours without medication.
- If prescribed an antibiotic they have taken the prescription for a full 24 hours
- They are free of open, oozing skin conditions unless the child's health-care provider signs a note stating that the child's condition is not contagious;

AND, the involved areas can be covered by a bandage without seepage or drainage through the bandage

A child with scabies, lice or other infestation may return 24 hours after treatment is begun with a note from the health care provider stating that the child is free of larvae or nits.

A child with any reportable contagious illness (example: measles) must have a health care provider note stating they are no longer contagious.

A child with an unidentified rash must have a doctor's note stating that the rash is not contagious.

## SCC COVID Policy

The overlap between COVID-19 symptoms with other common illnesses means that some people with symptoms of COVID-19 could be ill with something else. This is even more likely in young children, who typically have multiple viral or bacterial illnesses each year. Although COVID-19 and other common illnesses such as colds, flu, or ear infections have similar symptoms, they are different diseases. Children who have symptoms of infectious illness or certain symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend SCC.

### **If your child is sick/symptomatic:**

If your child has any of the following symptoms they must stay home. If any of the following symptoms present while they are at SCC parents/guardians will be called and required to pick up their child as soon as possible and no later than one hour from notification.

Fever, temperature 100.4 °F or higher, or chills  
Cough  
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing  
Fatigue  
Muscle or body aches  
Headache  
New loss of taste or smell  
Sore throat  
Congestion or runny nose  
Diarrhea, vomiting, or stomachache

Testing for the latest COVID variant has been somewhat challenging, with rapid tests often missing the infection until a day or two after symptoms begin. Both rapid tests and PCR tests are helpful here.

If you'd like to use a rapid on the first day of symptoms, we require a second rapid test 24 hours later if the first is negative. Only one rapid test is needed for people who are 2 or more days into symptoms. If you choose to not test your child for COVID, your child must stay home for 10 days.

If your child tests negative for COVID-19 they may return once they meet the conditions under "Return to SCC" in the sick policy above.

### **If your child has COVID**

Children who have presumed or confirmed COVID-19 have 2 options for return:

1. Stay home and [isolate](#) for at least 10 full days after the onset of symptoms or a positive COVID test, whichever comes first.
2. Begin rapid testing on day 5 of illness. If a single rapid test is negative the child can return if they also meet the conditions under "Return to SCC" in the sick policy above. PCR testing is not recommended for this scenario, since they can remain positive long after a person is no longer contagious.

Please note: The 10 (instead of 5) day isolation period is based on the CDC recommendation for children who are unable to consistently wear a mask when around others (including all children under 2 years of age). This differs from the isolation period recommendation for the general public and is specific to early childhood settings.

### **If your child is a non-household close contact of someone who has COVID:**

Your child must either:

1. Quarantine for a full 10 days before return to SCC
2. Begin Quarantine and test after exposure with either rapid tests on day 4 & 5 or a PCR on day 4. If your child remains asymptomatic and tests negative they may return to SCC.

Asymptomatic, unvaccinated siblings of children who have been deemed a close contact can attend SCC but must be monitored very closely for symptoms.

[Close contacts are those who were less than 6 feet away from an infected person \(laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis\) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.](#) The [exception](#) to the close contact definition for K-12 schools typically does not apply to ECE

programs, where masks are less reliably worn or not worn at all depending on age.

### **If your child is a household close contact of someone who has COVID:**

If the positive household member is able to isolate from the rest of the household, you can follow the non-household guidance above.

If the positive household member is not able to isolate from the rest of the household:

Your child must do one of the 2 quarantine options outlined above, but their “day count” begins when the household contact’s isolation/infection period ends with either with a negative rapid antigen at day 5 or later or 10 days.

### **Exceptions to Quarantine Requirement for Close Contact:**

Children who come into close contact with someone with COVID-19 do not need to quarantine if they are in one of the following groups:

- Children who [have received all recommended vaccine doses and are up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines](#).
- Children who have had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (tested positive using a viral test).

Per CDC guidelines, however, these children should be monitored very closely for symptoms and isolate immediately if they appear.