

Burleson ISD Child Care Illness and Exclusion Policy

Updated January 2019

With the seasonal illnesses that go around this time of year, we have many parents asking what our illness and exclusion policies are. We follow both the District rules as well as the Daycare Licensing rules. In a nutshell, we send children home with a temperature of 100 degrees or over, 2 diarrhea episodes or 2 vomiting episodes. These rules can be found on the BISD Webpage, on the Daycare webpage, and on the Department of Family and Protective Services under Child Care/Minimum Standards. Below are excerpts from 3 sites: 1) The BISD Child Care Regulations/Illness and Exclusion, 2) BISD Website under "Should I keep my child home?" and 3) Daycare Licensing's Minimum Standards under What Types of illness would prohibit a child attending the child-care center:

1) The BISD Child Care Regulations/Illness and Exclusion

Illness and exclusion

If a child becomes ill while in our care, we will contact the parent to pick up the child, care for the child apart from the other children, give appropriate attention and supervision until the parent picks the child up, and give extra attention to hand washing and sanitation if the child has diarrhea or vomiting. Per District Policy and Daycare Licensing, we cannot keep a child at the center if one or more of the following exists: 1) The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in our activities including outdoor play; the illness results in a greater need for care than caregivers can provide without compromising the health, safety, and supervision of other children in our care; the child has one of the following, unless medical evaluation by a health-care professional indicates that you can include the child in our activities:

a) Auxiliary temperature of 100 degrees or greater accompanied by behavior changes or other signs or symptoms of illness; or b) Symptoms and signs of possible severe illness such as lethargy, abnormal breathing, uncontrolled diarrhea, two or more vomiting episodes in 24 hours, rash with fever, mouth

sores with drooling, behavior changes, or other signs that the child may be severely ill; or a health-care professional has diagnosed the child with a communicable disease, and the child does not have medical documentation to indicate that the child is no longer contagious. (Copied from the BISD Child Care Regulations)

2) **BISD Website under “Should I keep my child home?”**

Should I keep my child home?

You are here: [Home](#) \ [Departments](#) \ [Health Services](#) \ Should I keep my child home? We feel that attendance at BISD is extremely important to your child’s success at school. They must be here to learn! There are also important health reasons for keeping your child home from school. These helpful guidelines should be used to determine when your child should stay home from school due to illness:

- Fever of 100 degrees or higher in the past 24 hours- Your child needs to be free of fever for a full 24 hours without the help of fever reducing medications (such as Tylenol, Motrin or Fever-All) before sending them back to school.
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea in the past 24 hours
- Itchy, red eyes with discharge
- Rash that has fluid or pus coming from it until treatment has been received, and a note from the doctor states that your child may return to school
- Ringworm of the scalp (until treatment has started)
- Head lice (may return after appropriate lice treatment) -Your school nurse will need to check your child’s head before he/she returns to class

(Retrieved from <http://www.burlesonisd.net/departments/health-services/keep-child-home/>)

3) **Daycare Licensing’s Minimum Standards under What Types of illness would prohibit a child attending the child-care center**

Division 3, Illness and Injury §746.3601. What types of illness would prohibit a child from attending the child-care center? Subchapter R, Health Practices Division 3, Illness and Injury April 2017 Unless you are licensed to provide get-well care, you must not allow an ill child to attend your child-care center if one or more of the following exists: Medium (1) The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in child-care center activities including outdoor play; Medium-High (2) The illness results in a greater need for care than caregivers can provide without compromising the health, safety, and supervision of the other children in care; (3) The child has one of the following (unless a medical evaluation by a health-care professional indicates that you can include the child in the child-care center's activities): Medium (A) An oral temperature above 101 degrees that is accompanied by behavior changes or other signs or symptoms of illness; Medium (B) A tympanic (ear) temperature above 100 degrees that is

accompanied by behavior changes or other signs or symptoms of illness. Tympanic thermometers are not recommended for children under six months old; Medium (C) An axillary (armpit) temperature above 100 degrees that is accompanied by behavior changes or other signs or symptoms of illness; or Medium (D) Symptoms and signs of possible severe illness such as lethargy, abnormal breathing, uncontrolled diarrhea, two or more vomiting episodes in 24 hours, rash with fever, mouth sores with drooling, behavior changes, or other signs that the child may be severely ill; or Medium (4) A health-care professional has diagnosed the child with a communicable disease, and the child does not have medical documentation to indicate that the child is no longer contagious. Helpful Information • Regarding paragraph (3), when taking a child's temperature, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that: • Electronic devices for measuring temperature require periodic calibration and specific training in proper technique; and • The height of fever does not indicate a more or less severe illness. • Regarding subparagraph (D), as with temperatures a child does not have to be sent home unless there are multiple symptoms and signs of possible severe illness. Some children may also have medical issues that cause one or more symptoms, but the symptoms may not be a sign of possible severe illness (for example, a child that is lactose intolerant). • To clarify "uncontrolled diarrhea", this is when: • A diapered child's stool: • Is not contained in the diaper; and/or • Exceeds two or more stools above the normal for that child; and • A toilet-trained child's diarrhea is causing soiled pants and clothing.

So, to be clear, your child will need to be kept home or picked up from Daycare with any of the following:

- Fever of 100 degrees or higher in the past 24 hours- Your child needs to be free of fever for a full 24 hours without the help of fever reducing medications (such as Tylenol, Motrin or Fever-All) before sending them back to school.
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea in the past 24 hours
- Itchy, red eyes with discharge
- Rash that has fluid or pus coming from it until treatment has been received, and a note from the doctor states that your child may return to school
- Ringworm of the scalp (until treatment has started)
- Head lice (may return after appropriate lice treatment) -Your school nurse will need to check your child's head before he/she returns to class

If you have any questions about the policies, please contact Jayne Jones, Daycare Director or Courtney Peets, Director of Nursing, BISD. Thank you, Jayne