SICK CHILD, STAFF, AND VOLUNTEER POLICY

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Overview

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Chaves and Lincoln Counties (BGCCLC) are committed to providing Optimal Club Experiences to every child, staff, or volunteer who enters our facilities. Part of that experience requires taking proper actions when one is not feeling well to help prevent the spread of illness.

Procedure

BGCCLC will promptly notify a child's parent or guardian and require pickup when the child meets an exclusion condition stated below. If the parent or guardian cannot be reached, staff will contact the authorized emergency contacts. A sick employee or volunteer must stop working with children and leave the facility as soon as safely possible. A child will be excluded when illness prevents comfortable participation, requires more care than staff can safely provide without compromising supervision, or creates a risk of spreading illness to others.

- A child, employee, or volunteer has a sore throat accompanied by fever, difficulty swallowing, significant discomfort, suspected contagious illness, or an inability to participate comfortably.
- A child, employee, or volunteer has vomited or is experiencing persistent nausea that prevents comfortable participation.
- A child has an oral temperature of 101 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, or an armpit temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, and shows signs of illness or behavioral changes. A child may also be excluded at a lower temperature when other symptoms indicate contagious or severe illness.
- A child, employee, or volunteer is experiencing diarrhea, particularly repeated or uncontrolled diarrhea, bloody diarrhea, or diarrhea that cannot be contained by normal toileting practices.
- A child reports feeling unwell and shows lethargy, unusual behavior, significant discomfort, or an inability to participate comfortably.
- A child has soiled their clothing and cannot be safely cleaned and changed at the Club, has repeated diarrhea, does not have replacement clothing available, or may have a contagious illness. A parent or guardian may bring clean replacement clothing. If soiling becomes a recurring issue, the child must have an extra set of clothing available at the Club at all times.
- A child has experienced an injury warranting removal from care as determined by the Program Director or designee.
- A child has or is suspected of having chickenpox.
- A child has or is suspected of having ringworm.

Isolation

A child who becomes sick while at the Club will be separated from other children in the front lobby, which is BGCCLC's designated separation area. The child will remain under constant observation by an employee until released to a parent, guardian, or authorized pickup person. A cot or mat will be available when needed and will be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly after each use. Staff will wash their hands before and after caring for the sick child and will use nonporous, single-use gloves whenever contact with bodily fluids is possible.

A parent or guardian will be notified promptly and expected to arrange pickup as soon as possible. If the parent or guardian cannot be reached, BGCCLC will contact the child's authorized emergency contacts. BGCCLC will continue supervising the child until an authorized person arrives.
Children and employees absent because of a notifiable disease may not return without a signed statement from a physician. Volunteers absent because of a notifiable disease may not return until BGCCLC receives appropriate medical clearance.

Anyone who vomits must remain away from the Club for at least 24 hours after the last vomiting episode without the use of vomiting-suppressing medication. Earlier return may be permitted with medical documentation showing that the vomiting resulted from a diagnosed noncontagious condition.

Anyone excluded because of fever must remain away from the Club until fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, unless a healthcare provider provides different written return instructions acceptable to BGCCLC.

Anyone with diarrhea must remain away from the Club for at least 24 hours after the last episode without the use of diarrhea-suppressing medication. Earlier return may be permitted with medical documentation showing that the diarrhea resulted from a diagnosed noncontagious condition.

Anyone with a contagious disease must remain away from the Club until they are no longer contagious and meet applicable public-health or medical return requirements. Children and employees absent because of a notifiable disease must provide a signed statement from a physician before returning.

Nausea
Anyone experiencing nausea will be moved to the front lobby and provided a receptacle. A child who vomits will remain separated in the front lobby under constant observation, and the parent or guardian will be contacted for immediate pickup. An employee or volunteer who vomits must stop working with children and leave as soon as safely possible.

Lice
Anyone suspected of having an active lice infestation will be handled discreetly. A child with an active infestation will be separated in the front lobby, seated on a vinyl or similarly smooth chair, constantly observed, and the parent or guardian notified for immediate pickup. An employee or volunteer with an active infestation must leave as soon as safely possible. The child, employee, or volunteer may return 24 hours after appropriate treatment has been applied and will be checked discreetly upon return.

Chicken Pox
Anyone with chickenpox may not return until all lesions are dry and crusted, no new lesions have appeared for at least 24 hours, and any required medical clearance has been provided. A child with suspected or confirmed chickenpox will be separated in the front lobby under constant observation, and the parent or guardian will be contacted for immediate pickup. An employee or volunteer with suspected or confirmed chickenpox must leave as soon as safely possible.

Ringworm
Anyone suspected of having ringworm of the scalp or body will be handled discreetly and removed from program areas for evaluation. A child with suspected ringworm will be separated in the front lobby under constant observation, and the parent or guardian will be contacted for pickup. An employee or volunteer with suspected ringworm must leave as soon as safely possible.

The following are expectations for exclusions from the Club:

- Exclusion for scalp ringworm
    - Children, employees, or volunteers with scalp ringworm may return after appropriate treatment

has begun and any medical clearance requested by BGCCLC has been provided.

- Exclusion for body ringworm
    - Children, employees, or volunteers with body ringworm may return after appropriate treatment has begun when the affected area can be completely covered, unless a healthcare provider or public-health authority directs otherwise. BGCCLC may request medical documentation when the diagnosis or safe return date is unclear.

Things to remember:

- Affected areas should be covered with gauze, bandage, or clothing to prevent shedding of infected scales.
- Avoid the sharing of hats, combs, brushes, barrettes, scarves, clothing, bedding, or towels without washing them between users.

Cleaning and Exposure Response

Employees will clean and disinfect surfaces, furniture, equipment, toys, and other items contaminated by vomit, diarrhea, blood, respiratory secretions, or other bodily fluids using appropriate protective equipment and approved cleaning and disinfecting products. Cleaning frequency will be increased during a communicable-disease occurrence. Shared personal items will not be used unless they can be properly cleaned between users. BGCCLC will follow applicable public-health notification and exposure instructions while protecting confidential medical information.

In addition to cleaning and disinfecting items after contamination, all toys will be disinfected at least once each week. Disinfection frequency will be increased during a communicable-disease occurrence in accordance with applicable public-health guidance. The Program Director or designee will maintain or verify the site's cleaning schedule.