

Stanley Preschool Health Policy 2022-2023

Subject to change due to new guidance from the local health department

Protecting the health of your children and our staff is our primary concern. **The number one defense against any illness is keeping your child home if they are not feeling well.** If your child is going to be absent, please notify the school office.

To help you determine when you should keep your child home, the State Manual of Requirements for Child Care Centers lists the following as symptoms which prevent a child from being admitted to school:

- severe pain or discomfort
- acute diarrhea, characterized as twice the child's usual frequency with a change to a looser consistency within a 24-hour period
- two or more episodes of acute vomiting within a period of 24 hours
- elevated oral or axillary temperature of 100.5 degrees Fahrenheit
- severe coughing
- yellow eyes or jaundiced skin
- red eyes with discharge
- infected, untreated skin patches
- difficult rapid breathing or severe coughing
- skin rashes in conjunction with fever or behavior changes
- weeping or bleeding skin lesions that have not been treated by a health care provider
- mouth sores with drooling
- stiff neck
- lethargy that is more than expected.

Once the child is symptom-free, or a health care provider indicates that the child poses no serious health risk, the child may return to school.

If a child who has already been admitted to the school manifests any of the above symptoms, the school will remove the child from the group until he/she can be picked up; or until the Director communicates verbally with a licensed physician, who indicates that the child poses no serious health risk to the other children.

Accidents involving a cut or scrape will be washed with soap, and a Band-Aid applied. For anything more serious, parents will be called. In case of a severe accident, and if none of the emergency contacts can be reached, the Chatham Emergency Squad and/or the doctor listed on your child's medical form will be contacted.

COVID -19/Variants

- **Any child who tests positive for COVID-19 or any variant must quarantine for 5 days and can return to school on Day 6, provided they can wear a well fitted mask for an additional 5 days.** If the child cannot wear a mask, then they need to quarantine for 10 days and can return to school on Day 11. Children must be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication before returning to school.

- All positive COVID cases must be reported to the Director.
- Masking for students and teachers is optional and at the discretion of families and school staff.
- Quarantine is no longer required, regardless of vaccination status, when a student or teacher is exposed to an individual with a known or suspected case of COVID-19.
- Children must be free from Covid-19 symptoms upon entering the premises. If during the day, the following symptoms appear, the child will be separated from the rest of the school and the parents will be contacted:
 - Fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
 - Dry cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Chills
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Sore Throat
 - Muscle aches

While we understand that many of these symptoms can be related to non-Covid-19 related issues, we must proceed with an abundance of caution during this Public Health Emergency. These symptoms typically appear 2-7 days after being infected, so please take them seriously. Your child will need to be symptom-free for 48 hours without any medications.

- In the event of an outbreak at Stanley Preschool or high transmission rates, additional precautions and measures may be put in place under the guidance of the local health department.

Communicable Diseases

If your child becomes ill with any of the following communicable diseases, state law mandates that we not readmit the child until a.) a note from the child's physician states that the child has been diagnosed and presents no health risk; b.) the school has contacted the Communicable Disease Program in the State Department of Health and is told the child poses no health risk to others; and c.) if the child had chicken pox, the school obtains a note from the parent stating that there is no new onset of the rash, or that all the sores have dried and crusted.

List of Excludable Communicable Diseases

Respiratory Illnesses: Chicken pox, Shingles, German Measles, Hemophilus Influenzae, Measles, Meningococcus, Mumps, Pertussis, Strep Throat, Tuberculosis, Whooping Cough, Campylobacter, Escherichia coli

Gastrointestinal Illnesses: Giardia Lamblia, Hepatitis A, Salmonella, Shigella; or

Contact Illnesses: Impetigo, Lice, Ringworm, Scabies.

If your child has been diagnosed as having any of these illnesses, please contact the school immediately (973-635-0755).