

**WAC 110-300-0205 Child, staff, and household member illness.**

(1) An early learning provider must observe all children for signs of illness when they arrive at the early learning program and throughout the day. Parents or guardians of a child should be notified, as soon as possible, if the child develops signs or symptoms of illness.

(2) If an early learning provider becomes ill, a licensee, center director, assistant director, or program supervisor must determine whether that person should be required to leave the licensed early learning space.

(3) When a child becomes ill, an early learning provider (or school nurse, if applicable) must determine whether the child should be sent home or separated from others. A provider must supervise the child to reasonably prevent contact between the ill child and healthy children.

(4) An ill child must be sent home or reasonably separated from other children if:

(a) The illness or condition prevents the child from participating in normal activities;

(b) The illness or condition requires more care and attention than the early learning provider can give;

(c) The required amount of care for the ill child compromises or places at risk the health and safety of other children in care; or

(d) There is a risk that the child's illness or condition will spread to other children or individuals.

(5) Unless covered by an individual care plan or protected by the ADA, an ill child, staff member, or other individual must be sent home or isolated from children in care if the ill individual has:

(a) A fever 101 degrees Fahrenheit for children over two months (or 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit for an infant younger than two months) by any method, and behavior change or other signs and symptoms of illness (including sore throat, earache, headache, rash, vomiting, diarrhea);

(b) Vomiting two or more times in the previous twenty-four hours;

(c) Diarrhea where stool frequency exceeds two stools above normal per twenty-four hours for that child or whose stool contains more than a drop of blood or mucus;

(d) A rash not associated with heat, diapering, or an allergic reaction;

(e) Open sores or wounds discharging bodily fluids that cannot be adequately covered with a waterproof dressing or mouth sores with drooling;

(f) Lice, ringworm, or scabies. Individuals with head lice, ringworm, or scabies must be excluded from the child care premises beginning from the end of the day the head lice, ringworm, or scabies was discovered. The provider may allow an individual with head lice, ringworm, or scabies to return to the premises after receiving the first treatment; or

(g) A child who appears severely ill, which may include lethargy, persistent crying, difficulty breathing, or a significant change in behavior or activity level indicative of illness.

(6) At the first opportunity, but in no case longer than twenty-four hours of learning that an enrolled child, staff member, volunteer, or household member has been diagnosed by a health care professional with a contagious disease pursuant to WAC 246-110-010(3), as now and hereafter amended, an early learning provider must provide written notice to the department, the local health jurisdiction, and the parents or guardians of the enrolled children.

(7) An early learning provider must not take ear or rectal temperatures to determine a child's body temperature.

(a) Providers must use developmentally appropriate methods when taking infant or toddler temperatures (for example, digital forehead scan thermometers or underarm methods);

(b) Oral temperatures may be taken for preschool through school-age children if single-use covers are used to prevent cross contamination; and

(c) Glass thermometers containing mercury must not be used.

(8) An early learning provider may readmit a child, staff member, volunteer or household member into the early learning program area with written permission of a health care provider or health jurisdiction stating the individual may safely return after being diagnosed with a contagious disease pursuant to WAC 246-110-010(3), as now and hereafter amended.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.216.055, 43.216.065, 43.216.250 and chapter 43.216 RCW. WSR 19-22-103, § 110-300-0205, filed 11/6/19, effective 12/7/19. WSR 18-15-001, recodified as § 110-300-0205, filed 7/5/18, effective 7/5/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.215.070, 43.215.201 and chapter 42.56 RCW. WSR 18-14-079, § 170-300-0205, filed 6/30/18, effective 8/1/19.]