Dear Abacus Families,

Located in the Abacus School Parent Handbook and State Minimum Standards you will find information concerning how Abacus handles illnesses and communicable diseases. If a child becomes ill while at Abacus they will be brought to the front office and an illness report will be filled out. A parent or guardian will be contacted by the front office to discuss the symptoms being observed and respond according to the criteria below. The school administrator shall exclude from attendance any child or employee having or suspected of having a communicable condition. Exclusion shall continue until the readmission criteria are met. The conditions and readmission criteria are as follows:

**Fever:**

* A temperature of above 100 degrees and accompanied by behavior changes or other signs of illness
* Exclusion from care is required
* Child may return after they have been symptom free for 24 hours without the aid of medication

**Vomiting:**

* Two or more episodes in a 24 hour period
* Exclusion from care is required
* Child may return after they have been symptom free for 24 hours without the aid of medication

**Diarrhea:**

* Two or more loose stools (outside of diaper or under garments) requires exclusion from care
* Child may return after they have been symptom free for 24 hours without the aid of medication

**Common cold:**

* Runny nose, watery eyes, fatigue, coughing and sneezing
* Exclusion from care is not required unless fever is present
* Child may return after 24 hours without fever or with a release from the doctor (if they had fever)

**Pink eye:**

* Red possibly puffy/swollen eyes with discharge or crusting
* Exclusion from care is required if suspected
* Child may return after treatment has started and with a release from the doctor

**Hand foot and mouth disease:**

* Rash in mouth, hands and feet
* Exclusion from care is not required unless fever is present or blisters have not scabbed over
* Child can return after being fever free for 24 hours without the aid of medication or with the release from a doctor stating that child does not have an excludable illness

**Head lice:**

* Presence of nits and/or live lice
* Exclusion from care is required with live lice and nits
* Children may return after one medicated treatment has been given
* Follow up treatment must be given within 7-10 days
* All children in the class must be checked for 10 days after the discovery this must be documented and turned in at the end of the 10 days
* Proper room sanitation is required

**Cold sore:**

* Blisters on or near mouth that become crusted
* Does not require exclusion from care

**Ringworm:**

* Ring shaped lesions of the skin
* Does not require exclusion from care
* Must be kept covered

**Sinus infection:**

* Fever, headache. Greenish or yellowish mucous
* Exclusion from care is not required

**Strep throat:**

* Fever, sore throat, with large tender lymph nodes in neck
* Requires exclusion from care
* Children may return 24 hours after antibiotic treatment has begun and fever has been gone 24 hours

**Amebiasis**:

* Exclude until treatment is initiated

**Campylobacteriosis:**

* Exclude until after diarrhea free for 24 hours without the use of diarrhea suppressing medications and fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications

**Chickenpox**:

* Exclude until the lesions become dry or if lesions are not vesicular, until 24 hours have passed with no new lesions occurring

**Conjunctivitis, bacterial and/or viral**:

* Exclude until permission and/or permit is issued by a physician or local health authority or until symptom free

**Fifth disease (erythema infectiosum):**

* Exclude until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications

**Gastroenteritis**:

* Exclude until diarrhea free for 24 hours without the use of diarrhea suppressing medications

**Giardiasis:**

* Exclude until diarrhea free for 24 hours without the use of diarrhea suppressing medications

**Hepatitis A:**

* Exclude until one week after onset of illness

**Infections (wounds, skin, and soft tissue):**

* Exclude until drainage from wounds or skin and soft tissue infections is contained and maintained in a clean dry bandage
* Restrict from situations that could result in the infected area becoming exposed, wet, soiled, or otherwise compromised

**Infectious mononucleosis:**

* Exclude until physician decides or fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications

**Influenza:**

* Exclude until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications

**Measles (rubeola):**

* Exclude until four days after rash onset or in the case of an outbreak, exclude unimmunized child for at least 21 days after the last date the unimmunized child was exposed

**Meningitis, bacterial:**

* Exclude until 24 hours after start of effective treatment and approval by health care provider

**Meningitis, viral:**

* Exclude until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications

**Meningococcal infections (invasive disease):**

* Exclude until 24 hours after start of effective treatment and approval by health care provider

**Mumps:**

* Exclude until five days after the onset of swelling

**Pertussis (whooping cough):**

* Exclude until completion of five days of appropriate antibiotic therapy, or until 21 days have passed since cough onset, whichever is earlier

**Rubella (German measles):**

* Exclude until seven days after rash onset or in the case of an outbreak, unimmunized children should be excluded until at least three weeks after the onset of the last rash

**Salmonellosis:**

* Exclude until diarrhea free for 24 hours without the use of diarrhea suppressing medications and fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications

**Scabies:**

* Exclude until treatment has begun

**Shigellosis:**

* Exclude until diarrhea free for 24 hours without the use of diarrhea suppressing medications and fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications

**Streptococcal sore throat and scarlet fever:**

* Exclude until 24 hours from time antibiotic treatment was begun and fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications

**Tuberculosis disease (suspected or confirmed), pulmonary or laryngeal:**

* Exclude until antibiotic treatment has begun and a physician's certificate or health permit obtained

**Typhoid fever:**

* Exclude until diarrhea free for 24 hours without the use of diarrhea suppressing medications and fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications and 3 consecutive stool specimens have tested negative for *Salmonella*Typhi.

Other symptoms of suspected illness that may require attention can be but are not limited to:

* Undiagnosed rashes
* Lethargy
* Abnormal breathing, or difficulty breathing
* Chest Pain

The school administrator shall exclude from attendance any child or employee having or suspected of having a communicable disease designated by the Commissioner of the Department of State Health Services (commissioner) as cause for exclusion until one of the criteria listed in subsection (a) of this section is fulfilled.

(a) Any child excluded for reason of communicable disease may be readmitted, as determined by the health authority, by:

* submitting a certificate of the attending physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant attesting that the child does not currently have signs or symptoms of a communicable disease or to the disease's non-communicability in a school setting
* submitting a permit for readmission issued by a local health authority; or
* meeting readmission criteria as established by the commissioner

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