



Part I. Communicable Disease Management/Sick Policy

In the interest of keeping everyone as healthy as possible, GSC expects parents or guardians to practice the following precautions to help prevent the spread of communicable disease. Your cooperation in carrying out these practices is particularly appreciated. If your child has symptoms that may be consistent with COVID-19, such as fever, coughing, or diarrhea, please see Part II of this sick policy for the heightened procedures that will apply during the pandemic.

In the interest of keeping our community healthy and to comply with our state licensing requirements, it is imperative that a child be kept at home if any of the following symptoms are present:

- ❄️ A fever of 100 degrees F or greater
- ❄️ Skin rash other than eczema
- ❄️ Diarrhea and/or vomiting
- ❄️ Evidence of lice infestation
- ❄️ Severe or persistent coughing that is non-allergy related or unusual-sounding
- ❄️ Yellow or green mucus discharge that is non-allergy related
- ❄️ Difficult or rapid breathing/wheezing
- ❄️ Yellowish skin or eyes
- ❄️ Conjunctivitis symptoms (red eye, usually accompanied by excessive tearing or crusty discharge)
- ❄️ Unusually dark urine and/or gray or white stool
- ❄️ Stiff neck or irritability

ONCE SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS ARE ABSENT FOR A FULL 24 HOURS, THE CHILD MAY RETURN TO SCHOOL.

1. A list of “Notifiable Diseases/Conditions in New Mexico” can be found in the Child Care Licensing Regulations and on the parent board as well as The New Department of Health Website:
2. <https://www.nmhealth.org/publication/view/policy/372/>
3. Any child suspected of having a communicable disease is isolated immediately in the Director’s office, within sight and hearing of an adult. The child is given a mat and blanket for use. The parents or emergency contacts are telephoned to pick up the child from the center. Once no signs of disease are present for 24 hours, the child may return to the school.

4. State licensing regulations requires notice is given when a communicable disease is present in any of the children. (In these cases, please call or email to give the school notice as soon as a diagnosis is made so we may warn others.)
5. If administration of medication is required, a form must be signed by the parent/ guardian, including the name of medicine, dosage, hour to be administered, and whether refrigeration is required. Medications must be in their original containers with written instructions including the name of the child and medication, the dosage, and the hours to be administered. The school reserves the right to refuse to administer medication.
6. Please do not place medication of any kind, including sunscreen, hand lotion, vitamins, or lip balm, etc. in a child's lunch box or cubby. All such items must be kept out of children's reach. This is a requirement of the New Mexico Child Care Licensing Regulations and must be strictly adhered to.
7. When a staff member exhibits any sign of communicable disease, he or she leaves the center and a substitute is called to replace the ill staff member.

Part II. COVID-19 Sick Policy

In addition to our regular sick policy, GSC has created the following sick policy specific to the pandemic.

THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OUR FAMILIES AND STAFF ARE OUR HIGHEST PRIORITIES. IN THE INTEREST OF LIMITING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR TRANSMISSION OF COVID-19 TO OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY, WE ARE TAKING THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES. GSC WILL HAVE A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY FOR VIOLATION OF THIS SICK POLICY, UP TO AND INCLUDING IMMEDIATE DISENROLLMENT OF YOUR CHILD.

- I. All staff and children will be subject to a daily health check, including a visual symptom check and temperature check, before entering the school. If the child or staff member is found to have any of the symptoms in Section II they will be unable to attend. A mid-day health check will be performed as well.
- II. Should a child or ANY of their immediate household members* have any of the following symptoms, parents must keep their children at home and notify the Executive Director of Garcia Street. The entire household must remain out of Garcia Street for 14 days unless a letter of medical clearance is provided by a physician indicating that the presenting symptoms are associated with a known non-COVID-19 illness, the child tests negative for

COVID-19, or the child or family member has met the CDC and public health criteria for discontinuing home isolation.

- ✿ Fever
- ✿ Headache
- ✿ Muscle aches
- ✿ Cough
- ✿ Nasal congestion or rhinorrhea
- ✿ New loss of taste or smell
- ✿ Sore throat
- ✿ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- ✿ Abdominal pain
- ✿ Diarrhea
- ✿ Nausea or vomiting

*Household members include individuals who may not live in the home but may be staying there or are otherwise present in the household on a regular basis (e.g. family members, nannies, workers, etc.) and also includes anyone who regularly picks up or drops off the child at Garcia Street Club.

III. If the child, anyone in the child's household, or anyone with whom a household member has had close contact* has been diagnosed with COVID-19, the child and the child's entire household must notify the Executive Director of Garcia Street. The child must remain quarantined for 14 days before returning to the school. If the child or family member has developed COVID-19 symptoms the child may only return to school provided these three things have happened:

- a.) At least 10 days have passed since any household members or the child first experienced symptoms and
- b.) The entire household has been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicines and
- c.) other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.

IV. If a child is extremely lethargic, seems generally unwell, is reporting that he or she feels badly, and/or is not able to engage in the usual activities, GSC reserves the right to use our discretion in contacting parents to have a child picked up.

V. Parents who are contacted to pick up a sick child must respond within 30 minutes and must pick up the child within one hour. Sick children will be kept away from the group and kept comfortable in a secluded space within the school.