

BMN Illness Management Policy (Revised)

Revised: June 11, 2025

At Bee Montessori Niagara (BMN), we are committed to prioritizing the needs of the child over all else. This includes fulfilling our duty and obligation (as stated in Public Health's Child Care Manual: "Managing Illness") to protect our children from illness.

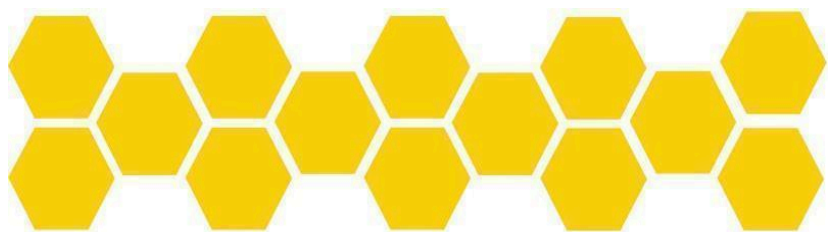
Please Note: Our school policies are set in alignment with Public Health policies and guidelines.

Daily Observation of Children

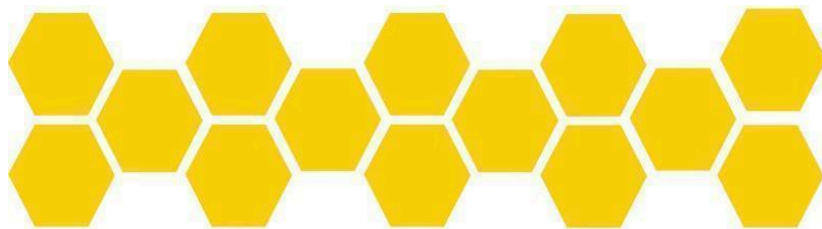
Throughout the day, our staff members consistently observe the children for any changes in mood, behaviour, or physical appearance that may indicate illness or discomfort. If a staff member suspects that a child may be unwell, they will immediately notify the Site Supervisor. The Site Supervisor will then assess the situation and determine the appropriate next steps, which may include contacting the child's parent/guardian. These calls are intended to keep parents informed; however, they do not always require immediate pick-up and are offered more as a courtesy. The Site Supervisor will clearly communicate whether the situation requires the child to go home or if the child will continue to be monitored closely at School for any changes.

Illnesses and When the Child Can Return

For specific symptoms, conditions, and required recovery periods, please refer to the **chart below**. This guide (which has been created using Public Health's "Managing Illness") outlines when it is appropriate for your child to return to the classroom.

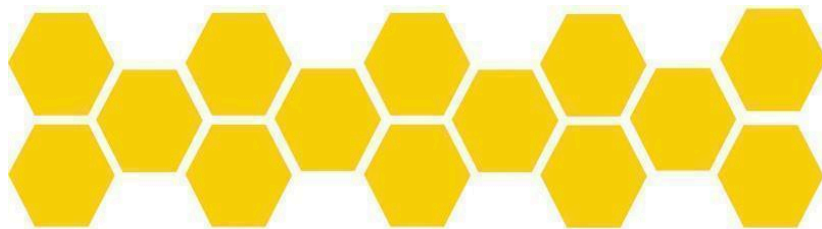


REPORTABLE DISEASES		
Illness	When A Child Is Unable to Remain/Attend School	When A Child Can Return to School
Chicken Pox	Symptoms: -red, itchy rash -fever -fatigue, loss of appetite, headache	Once well enough to participate (*no formal exclusion).
COVID-19	Symptoms: -fever/chills -cough or shortness of breath/difficulties breathing -fatigue -headache -muscle/body aches -nausea or vomiting -sore throat or congestion	Should stay home until fever free (without medication) AND other symptoms have been improving AND they have not developed new symptoms.
Influenza (Flu)	Symptoms: -fever/chills -cough -sore throat -headache -fatigue -nausea/vomiting -body aches	Should not attend until 5 days after the start of the symptoms OR until fever free (without medication) AND can participate in activities.
Measles		Return for 4 days after onset of rash.
Mumps		Return after 5 days from the onset of swelling.

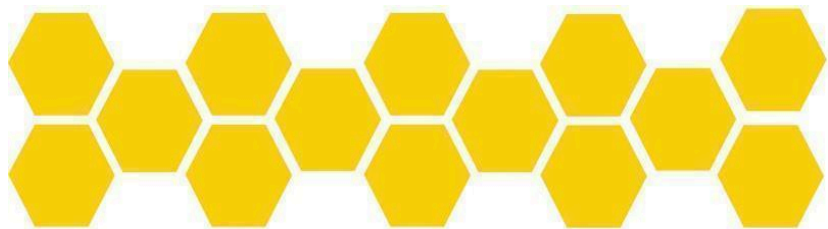


Pertusis (Whooping Cough)		Return three weeks after intense coughing begins OR after 5 days of appropriate antibiotic treatment
Rubella		Return 7 days after the rash is first noticed.

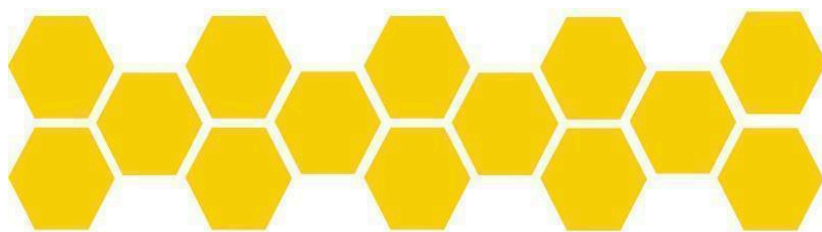
NON-REPORTABLE DISEASES		
Illness	When A Child Is Unable to Remain/Attend School	When A Child Can Return to School
Common Cold		Return once fever free (*without medication) AND other symptoms have been improving for 24 hours AND they have not developed new symptoms.
Diarrhea	If a child has two or more bouts in one day	24 hours after the last bout
Fever	If child has a fever of 37.9 degrees celsius or 100.2 degrees fahrenheit or above	Once fever free for 24 hours without medication
Fifth Disease	Symptoms: -usually appears as a very red rash on child's cheeks, giving a "slapped cheek" look -low-grade fever	Return once no longer contagious (when rash appears)



	-headache -cold-like symptoms See full list of symptoms here: https://caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/health-conditions-and-treatments/fifth_disease	
Hand/Foot and Mouth	Symptoms: -fever -small, painful ulcers in the mouth -a skin rash (looks like red spots) on hands, feet -headache -sore throat -vomiting/diarrhea See full list of symptoms here: https://caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/health-conditions-and-treatments/hand_foot_and_mouth_disease	Return once well enough to participate It is recommended to keep a child home if: -they are drooling OR -they have blisters on the mouth OR -they have a weeping rash on their hand(s)
Impetigo	Symptoms: -appears around the mouth, nose or on skin that isn't covered by clothes -rash can start as a cluster of red bumps or blisters See full list of symptoms here: https://caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/health-conditions-and-treatments/impetigo	Return once antibiotic prescribed has been in the child's system for one full day (24 hours) AND child is well enough to participate
Pink Eye	Symptoms: -scratchy eyes -lots of tearing -the whites of the eyes are pink/red -pus or discharge from the eyes	Should be kept home until seen by a healthcare practitioner. If bacterial, child can return after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment



	See full list of symptoms here: https://caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/health-conditions-and-treatments/pinkeye	If viral , child can return with approval from a healthcare practitioner.
Pinworm	Symptoms: -usually no symptoms -some children get very itchy around the anus and vagina (especially at night) See full list of symptoms here: https://caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/health-conditions-and-treatments/pinworms	Return after treatment has started
Ringworm	Symptoms: -rash (ring shaped, with a raised edge) -scaly patches (itchy and flaky) -fungal infections on the feet See full list of symptoms here: https://caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/health-conditions-and-treatments/ringworm	Return after first treatment has started
Roseola		Return if well enough to participate in regular programming.
Scabies		Return after treatment has been applied
		Return once antibiotics have been taken for at least 24 hours AND the child is well enough to participate in the program.



Vomiting	If a child has 1 bout of vomiting	Return 24 hours after LAST bout of vomiting
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For more information, please visit:

<https://www.niagararegion.ca/living/childcare/service-providers/child-care-manual/illness.aspx#non-report>

Head Lice Policy

Head lice are a common childhood occurrence and are not a reflection of hygiene or cleanliness. Our goal is to manage head lice in a way that minimizes disruption to the child and school community while preventing further spread.

If a case of head lice is identified:

- The child's parent/guardian should inform the School immediately.
- The School will inform the class affected.
- Home treatment should include a type of medicated shampoo or recommended lice treatment. **The child will be able to return to School once a School Administrator has verified that they are clear of lice and/or nits (eggs).**
- We encourage you to consider checking siblings and close contacts as a precaution.

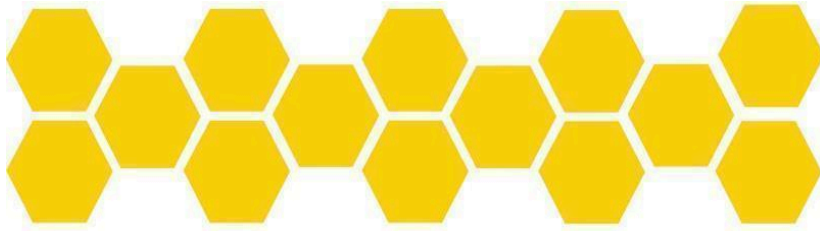
To help prevent the spread of lice, we encourage:

- Regular checks at home, especially behind the ears and at the nape of the neck.
- Children to avoid sharing personal items such as hats, hairbrushes, and hair accessories.
- Bringing your child(ren)'s hat(s) home on a daily basis to be laundered in hot water and dried on high heat.

For additional information regarding how to treat and prevent head lice, please visit the links below:

<https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/schools/head-lice.aspx>

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<https://www.licesquad.com/contact/niagara-region/>

Exposure to Communicable Diseases

When a child has been exposed to a communicable disease in the School, the following protocol will be followed:

1. The Site Supervisor will inform Public Health and follow the necessary protocol.
2. Staff, parents and guardians will be notified of the exposure.
3. Staff, parents and guardians will closely monitor the children who were exposed to the illness for any potential signs and symptoms.