



FIRST UNITED METHODIST PRESCHOOL

HEALTH POLICY

Your child's health is important to us. The following policy helps reduce the amount of illness among children and staff in addition to reducing the amount of time a parent may lose from their job caring for their sick children.

1. Since we are a learning environment and not a daycare, sick children ***will not*** be permitted at school. A child with any of the following symptoms ***must*** be kept at home:
 - **Fever**
 - **Diarrhea**
 - **Yellow or green mucus discharge from nose, eyes, or ears**
 - **Congestion and/or coughing**
 - **Sore throat or swollen glands**
 - **Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)**
 - **Any type of Rash**
 - **Lice or Nits**
 - **Viral Infections**
2. If your child presents any of the above symptoms while at school or if they are not feeling well, lethargic or showing a distinct behavior change from the norm, you will be contacted to come pick them up. If we are unable to reach you, we will contact one of your designated representatives. Please be prompt if called to pick up and be sure to include someone on your pick up list that is close by or readily available.
3. Any child sent home with fever, diarrhea or vomiting **will not be permitted to return to school until 24 hours after the last incidence** or 24 hours after treatment has begun.
4. Any child sent home with yellow or green mucus discharge, congestion/coughing or sore throat may return to school the next day provided symptoms are no longer present or with a medical doctor's written permission that includes the diagnosis and a statement that your child is not contagious.
5. Any child sent home with a rash or Conjunctivitis **must have a medical doctor's written permission to return** that includes the diagnosis, treatment and a statement that your child is not contagious.
6. Children who have been diagnosed with the **Molluscum Contagiosum infection** must have a doctor's note with diagnosis. In addition, lesions NOT covered by clothing NEED to be covered with a watertight bandage. If a child does NOT have the lesions covered, they will NOT be permitted at school.

7. Children who have tested positive for **COVID-19 must remain home for 5 days**. If after 5 days they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication, and symptoms are improving, or they never had symptoms, they may return to class.
8. Children with Chickenpox may return to school when the last erupted lesion has scabbed over. If you do not provide a medical doctor's written permission stating that your child is not contagious and may return to school, your child must be cleared through the Director or authorized personnel before re-entering the classroom.
9. If your child was diagnosed with head lice, they may not return until no lice or nits are present. They will need to be inspected (with discretion and privacy) by an authorized staff member or the Director prior to re-entering the classroom. The school does perform monthly "monkey checks" to check for any indications of head lice. We call them "monkey checks" as the teachers play a game with the child while checking their hair so that they are not aware of what is taking place. This way no child is left feeling embarrassed or ashamed.
10. If your child suffers from allergies, a medical doctor's written diagnosis is required to be on file as well as emergency procedures to follow and a description of the symptoms including a statement that they are not contagious. If they have a cough or discharge, they may be required to wear a mask in the classroom to prevent the spread of fluids.
11. The medications we can administer are only those prescribed by a medical doctor and are for life-saving purposes only. State licensing procedures will be followed. A special form giving permission to the staff to give medication to your child must be signed before medication can be administered. Medicine needs to be in the original packaging, non-expired and have written directions from the manufacturer. Over-the-counter medication **CANNOT** be administered. Please *do not* leave medication in your child's backpack.
12. Please do not ask your child if he or she wants to come to school. They will most likely say yes, but then we will have to call you when they begin to feel worse.
13. **All children must be able to participate in the learning environment.** Please do not give them medications that would/could make them feel drowsy prior to coming to school.
14. Due to religious reasons, some students may be exempt from immunizations. Proper identification/exemptions from the Health Department are required and kept on file.