



Communicable Disease Chart for Child Care Providers

Bureau of Child Care

Notify DOHMH of any case of a reportable condition as indicated below (in Notify DOHMH column) or 3 or more cases of any disease or condition or any unusual disease occurrence. Click on the disease name in the left-hand column for more information or to browse full list visit nyc.gov/health and select "Health Topics A-Z."

Disease	Incubation	Signs/Symptoms	How Transmitted	When Communicable	Restriction	Notify DOHMH	Facility's Obligation
Allergies	Not applicable (N/A)	Many of the symptoms seen in other illnesses: rashes, swelling, congested or running nose, wheezing, vomiting and diarrhea.	N/A as allergies are an abnormal sensitivity to certain substances and are not transmitted from person to person.	Never	Follow physician's instructions.	No, unless severe allergic reaction resulted in use of an epinephrine auto-injector	Obtain information from parent about child's allergies prior to admission. Request physician's recommendation on what child should avoid and how to handle an allergic reaction.
Amebiasis	2 -4 weeks	Mild form of amebiasis includes nausea, loose stools, stomach pain and cramping.	Fecal-oral route, through contaminated food, water or hands.	Until parasite no longer in stool, normally weeks but can be months to years.	Exclude child or staff until diarrhea is gone and until 3 stool tests are negative. Child Care staff (i.e., food handlers) must receive approval from DOHMH prior to returning to child care.	Yes	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary.
Campylobacteriosis	1 to 10 days, but can be longer	Diarrhea (may be bloody), fever, vomiting, abdominal cramping and malaise	Contact with infected birds, farm animals or pets, contaminated water, unpasteurized milk, contaminated food (especially undercooked poultry). Less commonly spread by person-to- person via fecal-oral transmission	As long as bacteria are present in the stool.	Exclude child until diarrhea is gone. Exclude staff who are involved in food handling or diapering until diarrhea is gone and until 2 stool tests are negative.	Yes	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary.
Chickenpox (Varicella) Caused by Varicella-Zoster virus	10-21 days (could be contagious beginning day 8)	Mild fever, itching small red fluid filled bumps start on stomach or back and spread to face.	Spread through the air by sneezing and coughing on others, contact with mucus or saliva-contaminated articles. Direct contact with rash.	Two days before rash begins until last of rash is crusted and healing.	Exclude child until all lesions are scabbed over and no new spots have appeared for 24 hours.	Yes	Notify parents via letter provided by DOH. Sanitize all articles. DOH will share guidance to exclude students and staff in the classroom of the case if they don't have varicella vaccine unless they get vaccinated within 3 days of initial exposure. Required immunization for children and staff
Colds (Upper Respiratory Infections)	24-72 hrs.	Sore throat, stuffy nose, runny nose, sneezing.	Sneezing and coughing on others, contact with mucus contaminated articles.	Usually 24 hours before symptoms until 3 days after start of symptoms.	Exclude child with fever of 101 °F or above.	No	Have children and staff wash hands often. Observe child for worsening symptoms (e.g., trouble breathing, high fevers, altered mental status) and if concerns, notify parents/physicians. Use tissues when coughing, sneezing or blowing nose; discard and wash hands afterwards.
Coxsackie (Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease) Caused by coxsackie A 16 virus	3-5 days	Fever, runny nose, sore throat. Blister-like rash may be on mouth, gums, tongue, feet and hands.	Direct contact with nose and throat discharges, blisters and feces.	From the start of first symptom until blister-like skin lesions are healed.	Exclude child with blisters in mouth who drool, or have weeping lesions, or until fever is gone.	Yes, if +G12 3 or more cases.	Staff and children must use good hand-washing procedures and be careful of respiratory secretions. Wash and disinfect play surfaces and any toys that may be placed in children's mouth. Notify parents.
Cryptosporidiosis	1-12 days	Watery diarrhea, abdominal cramping, low grade fever, vomiting, loss of appetite	Fecal-oral route, through contaminated food, water or hands.	Until parasite no longer in stool, normally 1-2 weeks but can persist for months.	Exclude child until diarrhea is gone and until 3 stool tests are negative. Child Care staff (i.e., food handlers) must receive approval from DOHMH prior to returning to child care.	Yes	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary. Prepare food or formula aseptically and clean and sanitize all toys.



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Diarrheal Diseases	Varies depending on the cause.	Abnormally loose or water stool.	Fecal-oral route, through contaminated food, water or hands.	Varies depending on cause.	Exclude child and staff until diarrhea is gone. For certain diarrheal diseases, negative follow up stool tests are required before child or staff can return.	Yes, if 3 or more cases.	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary if 3 or more cases.
Diphtheria	2-5 days	Sore throat, fever, croup, hoarseness, nasal discharge.	Sneezing and coughing on others, contaminated articles.	As long as bacteria are in the mouth or nose.	Exclude child from center until physician gives permission to return.	Yes	Notify parents via letter provided by DOH including guidance for post-exposure prophylaxis if indicated. Required immunization for children and staff.
Escherichia coli O157:H7 and other Shiga toxin-producing bacteria	3 to 5 days	Diarrhea (may be bloody), abdominal pain and fever	Fecal-oral route, through contaminated food, water or hands.	As long as bacteria are present in the stool.	Exclude child or staff until diarrhea is gone and until 2 stool tests are negative.	Yes	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary. Prepare food or formula aseptically and clean and sanitize all toys.
Fifth Disease (Erythema Infectiosum) Caused by Parvovirus B19	4-15 days	Fever, "slapped cheek" appearing rash spreading throughout the body. Rash disappears quickly.	Sneezing and coughing on others, and mucus or saliva contaminated articles.	Uncertain - children are probably non-contagious once rash appears.	Follow physician's instructions.	Yes, if 3 or more cases.	Wash hands frequently. Sanitize all articles used by children. Pregnant teachers/staff should advise physician of their exposure.
Food Poisoning	Hours to days (Varies depending on the cause).	Diarrhea, vomiting, fever, chills, headache and/or muscle pain.	Ingesting food or water contaminated with a bacteria, virus or toxin.	Varies depending on cause.	Exclude child and staff until symptoms are gone.	Yes, if 3 or more cases	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary. Prepare food or formula aseptically and clean and sanitize all toys.
Giardiasis (Beaver Fever) Caused by Giardia, an intestinal parasite.	1-4 weeks, usually 7-10 days	Diarrhea (persistent or recurring), gas, stomach cramps, bloating, nausea and weight loss. Some infected children may show no symptoms.	Fecal-oral route, through contaminated food, water or hands.	Until parasite no longer in stool, normally 2-6 weeks but can persist for months.	Exclude child or staff until diarrhea is gone and until 3 stool tests are negative. Child Care staff (i.e., food handlers) must receive approval from DOHMH prior to returning to child care.	Yes	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary.
Haemophilus Influenzae Type-B.	2-4 days	Meningitis, otitis media, blood stream infections, epiglottitis, pneumonia.	Direct contact, inhalation of droplets from sneezing and coughing.	May be as long as bacteria is in the mouth or nose.	Exclude child. Return with physician's permission.	Yes	Notify parents and staff using DOH letter including instructions for post-exposure antibiotic prophylaxis if indicated. Required immunization for children.
Hepatitis A (Infectious Hepatitis) Caused by Hepatitis A virus	15-50 days, usually 25-30 days	Upset stomach, tired, dark-colored urine, light-colored stool, yellowish skin and eyes.	Fecal-oral route, through contaminated food, water or hands.	From two weeks before symptom onset until 1 week after jaundice (yellowness) appears.	Exclude child and staff for 1 week after jaundice (or symptom onset). Return with DOHMH permission.	Yes	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Sanitize all toys. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents and staff may be necessary. Use DOHMH letter including instructions for post-exposure hep A vaccine or immune globulin prophylaxis if indicated.



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Impetigo <i>Caused by Staph or Strep virus</i>	7-10 days	Blisters, crusts, scabs on skin which are fluid and yellow (may be weeping).	Direct contact with infected area or with nasal discharges from infected child.	As long as lesions with discharges are present.	Exclude child for 24 hours after treatment has been initiated.	Yes, if 3 or more cases.	Child and staff should wash hands frequently throughout the day. Notify parents.
Kawasaki Syndrome	N/A	fever, rash, swelling of the hands and feet, irritation and redness of the whites of the eyes, swollen lymph glands	From an unknown infectious agent	Unknown	Follow physician's instructions.	No	Notify DOHMH immediately if 2 or more cases.
Measles (Rubeola) Caused by Measles virus	7-21 days	Fever, cough, red inflamed eyes, runny nose, red brown blotchy rash on face that spreads to body.	Spread through the air by sneezing and coughing on others, contaminated articles.	4 days before the rash appears to 4 days after.	Exclude child until 5 days after the rash appears.	Yes	Notify parents via letter provided by DOH including guidance for post-exposure antibiotic prophylaxis if indicated. Sanitize all articles. DOH will share guidance to exclude students and staff in the building if they don't have measles-containing vaccine unless they get vaccinated within 3 days of initial exposure. Required immunization for children and staff.
Meningitis - Bacterial May be caused by other disease. See specific disease for additional info Meningitis-Viral May be caused by other disease. See specific disease for additional info	2-10 days	Fever, headache, vomiting, chills, neck pain or stiffness, muscle spasms.	Sneezing and coughing on others, contact with mucus or saliva contaminated articles, or fecal-oral route depending upon organism involved.	Varies.	Exclude child. Return with physician's permission.	Yes	Notify parents. May require antibiotic prophylaxis for all contacts. Clean and sanitize all articles used by child.
Meningococcal Disease Invasive	2-10 days	Some may develop fever, headache, vomiting, stiff neck and a rash. Sometimes the disease can be fatal.	Direct close contact with nose or throat discharges of an infected person.	An infected person may be contagious from the time he or she is first infected until the germ is no longer present in discharges from the nose and throat.	Follow physician's instructions.	Yes	Notify parents. Antibiotic prophylaxis or vaccination may be required
Molluscum Contagiosum	2-7 weeks, and longer	Small flesh-colored bumps on skin that may have tiny, hard indented center lesions. May last several months.	Direct contact with infected individuals.	Unknown.	No exclusion. Do not let child scratch open lesion.	Yes, if 3 or more cases.	Careful and frequent hand washing. Do not share towels. Notify parents.
Mumps (Parotitis) Caused by Mumps virus	12-25 days	Swelling in front of ear, cold-like symptoms.	Secretions of the mouth and nose, contaminated articles.	2 days before to 5 days after swelling.	Exclude child until 6 days after swelling begins.	Yes	Notify parents via letter provided by DOH. Sanitize all articles. DOH will share guidance to exclude students and staff in the building if they don't have mumps-containing vaccine. Required immunization for children and staff.
Norovirus	10-50 hours	Nausea and vomiting. Diarrhea, abdominal pain, myalgia, Headache, malaise, low grade fever, or a combination of these symptoms. Gastro intestinal symptoms typically last 24 to 72 hours.	Fecal-oral route, through contaminated food, water or hands. Vomitus is also very contagious.	Until symptoms are gone and virus no longer in stool.	Exclude child or staff until vomiting and diarrhea are gone.	Yes, if 3 or more cases.	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary.



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Disease	Incubation	Signs/Symptoms	How Transmitted	When Communicable	Restriction	Notify DOHMH	Facility's Obligation
Pediculosis (Head Lice) Caused by Pediculus Capitis (the head louse)	24-72 hours to 2 weeks	Severe itching, small lice eggs (nits) on hair, lice crawling through hair.	Direct contact with infected individuals or their clothing; article to article contact (e.g. coats, blankets, hats).	As long as lice or eggs remain alive. (Lice cannot survive off a human for longer than 2 days.)	Do not exclude child just for nits. No need to send a child home early because of head lice. The child can go home at the end of the day, be treated, and return to daycare/class after appropriate treatment has begun.	Yes, if 3 or more cases.	Vacuum to get rid of lice in environment. Send all clothing and bedding home to be washed in hot water. Notify parents.
Pertussis (Whooping Cough) Caused by Bordetella Pertussis bacterium	7-21 days	Cough for 2 or more weeks with vomiting after cough, or rapid bursts of cough or whoop.	Sneezing and coughing on others, contaminated material.	When cough begins until 21 days after coughing begins or 5 days after starting antibiotic treatment.	Exclude child from center until after completion of appropriate antibiotics or until 22 days after cough begins.	Yes	Notify parents via letter provided by DOH. Sanitize all articles. DOH will share guidance to exclude students and staff in the building if they don't have the required number of doses of pertussis-containing vaccine. Required immunization for children and staff.
Pink Eye (Conjunctivitis) Caused by various viruses or bacteria	24-72 hours	Tearing, swollen eyelids, redness, purulent discharge from eyes.	Contact with discharge from eyes, nose or mouth, contaminated fingers and shared articles.	During the period of active symptoms.	Exclude child until drainage/secretion of eyes is gone.	Yes, if 3 or more cases.	Notify parents. Wash all items used by child. Staff and children must practice good hand hygiene.
Pneumonia	2 days - 4 weeks	Chills, fever, vomiting, chest pain, cough, sputum may be bloody.	Sneezing and coughing on others, contact with mucus contaminated articles.	Depends on the cause; Usually not contagious.	Exclude child until recovered or has physician's permission to return.	Yes, if 3 or more cases	Sanitize all articles used by ill children.
Polio	6-20 days	Flu symptoms, malaise, muscle weakness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea.	Stool from infected person on hands or objects and respiratory secretions.	7-10 days before and after onset of symptoms.	Exclude child from center until physician gives permission to return.	Yes	Notify parents via letter provided by DOH. Sanitize all articles. DOH will share guidance to exclude students if they don't have the required number of doses of polio-containing vaccine. Required immunization for children.
Ringworm Caused by Various skin fungi	4-10 days	Red, scaling lesions and broken hairs from skin/head.	Direct or indirect contact.	As long as lesions are active.	Exclude child until treatment has begun. Cover if possible when attending child care.	Yes, if 3 or more cases.	Wash all items used by infected child. (Put away play clothes and clean.) Notify parents.
Rubella (german-measles) Caused by Rubella virus.	12-23 days	Rash, red eyes, sore throat, headache, fever, swollen glands, and in adults, joint pain.	Sneezing and coughing on others, contaminated articles.	7 days before rash until 7 days after rash appears.	Exclude child for 7 days after rash appears.	Yes	Notify parents via letter provided by DOH. Sanitize all articles. DOH will share guidance to exclude students and staff in the building if they don't have the required number of doses of rubella-containing vaccine. Required immunization for children and staff.
Salmonellosis	1-3 days	Mild or severe diarrhea, fever and sometimes vomiting.	Fecal-oral route, through contaminated food, water or hands.	As long as bacteria are present in the stool.	Exclude child until diarrhea is gone. Exclude staff who are involved in food handling or diapering until diarrhea is gone and until 2 stool tests are negative.	Yes	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary.
Scabies Caused by Scabies mite	2-6 weeks, 1-4 days in persons previously infested	Intense itching usually between fingers and skin folds.	Direct contact.	As long as mites are alive.	Exclude child until 24 hours after treatment has started.	Yes, if 3 or more cases.	Wash all bedding and clothing in hot water. Notify parents.
Scarlet Fever (Strep A) Caused by Group A Beta Hemolytic Strep	2-5 days	Sore throat, fever, headache, rough (sand paper-like) red rash on body and flushed face.	Sneezing and coughing on others; mucous or saliva contaminated articles.	1-3 days before symptoms until child has been on antibiotics for 24 hours.	Exclude child until has been on antibiotics for 24 hours.	Yes, if 3 or more cases.	Encourage hand washing, especially after coughing and sneezing, and before preparing foods or eating. Sanitize all articles used.



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Shigellosis Caused by Shigella bacterium	1-7 days, usually 2-3 days	Mild or severe diarrhea, fever, sometimes with traces of blood or mucus in stool.	Person-to-person by exposure to feces during toileting or diapering.	As long as bacteria is present in stool.	Exclude child or staff until diarrhea is gone and until 2 stool tests are normal.	Yes	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary.
Streptococcal-infections Caused by Group A	1-5 days	Sore throat, fever, headache and swollen lymph glands.	Sneezing and coughing on others, contact with mucus or saliva contaminated articles.	3 days before symptoms until 24 hours after antibiotics.	Exclude child until has recovered or has been on antibiotics for 24 hours and has had no fever for 24 hours.	Yes, if 3 or more cases.	Encourage hand washing, sanitize all articles used by child.
Tetanus	3-21 days	Spasms and paralysis	Certain bacteria in soil enters body through cuts and wounds.	N/A	N/A	Yes	Clean all cuts, scrapes and puncture wounds with soap and water. Required immunization for children and staff. Notify parents.
Positive TB test (positive PPD skin test or positive blood test)	Bacteria can be carried in the body for many years without active disease	Chronic cough, weight loss, fever, growth delay, night sweats and chills	Infants and young children: not contagious. Adolescents/adults: spread by coughing and contaminating the environment as long as the disease is active	Close contact with adult who has TB, Through coughing, sneezing. When disease is active	Exclude child until effective therapy has started. Return with physician's permission or DOHMH.	Yes	Notify parents.
Typhoid/Paratyphoid	1 to 2 weeks	Mild or severe illness, may include fever, headache, diarrhea, constipation (stool that is hard and dry, or difficult to pass) rose-colored spots on the chest, back or stomach, and an enlarged spleen and liver.	Typhoid/paratyphoid germs are passed in the stool (feces) and sometimes in the urine of infected people. The germs are spread by eating or drinking water or foods contaminated by stool from an infected person.	As long as bacteria is present in the stool.	Exclude child or staff until asymptomatic and four documented negative stools over a 30 day period.	Yes	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary.
Yersiniosis (Yersinia Enterocolitica/Pseudo tuberculosis)	3-6 days	Diarrhea, fever, and abdominal discomfort. Symptoms may mimic appendicitis.	Yersiniosis is spread by eating or drinking contaminated food or water	As long as bacteria is present in the stool.	Exclude child until diarrhea is gone. Exclude staff who are involved in food handling or diapering until diarrhea is gone and until 2 stool tests are normal.	Yes	Implement proper hand washing techniques, especially wash hands between diaper changes and before preparing food. Consult with Bureau of Child Care - notification of parents may be necessary.