



2732 S. Central Ave, Tifton GA 31794  
Phone (229) 387-0687 • [admin@highhopeacademy.com](mailto:admin@highhopeacademy.com) • [www.highhopeacademy.com](http://www.highhopeacademy.com)

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## SICK CHILD POLICY (Symptom FREE Facility)

This facility is operated as a “**well-child**” (**Symptom FREE**) facility. Every course of action is taken to reduce the spread of illness by encouraging hand washing and following other universal sanitary practices.

Under no circumstance may a parent bring a sick child to the child care program. If a child shows any signs of illness (**ANY SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS**) or is unable to participate in the normal routine and regular activities, the child should be kept home. **Sick children expose other children and the teachers to the spread of germs and require additional care and attention that may not be available.**

High Hope Academy reserves the right to **temporarily deny** any child admittance to the school for reasons of **obvious illness**, or to request early departure should symptoms become apparent during the course of the day. Any child who seems unable to participate in our program for any reason will be sent home.

This is to ensure the continued good health of everyone at the center. **We realize that most of you are working parents and we do try to accommodate you as much as possible. However, adhering to Child Care Licensing policies and for the health and wellbeing of the children in our care and our staff we feel it is vital to maintain a strict wellness policy.**

We ask for parents to assist us by keeping sick children at home. We do take into consideration your physician's recommendations nevertheless it is up to our discretion when your child may return to school.

### **When a child MAY NOT attend school:**

- **Fever:** Children will be sent home if their temperature is 101.0 or higher and must stay home the next day for observation. Children must be free of fever (any temperature above 98.6 degrees) for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication. The same policy applies if your child develops a fever at home. They must be fever free (any temperature above 98.6 degrees) for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.
- **Rash:** Any rash other than a common diaper rash or skin irritation will require that child to be sent home for an evaluation and diagnosis from their doctor in writing of exactly what it is. They may return to school based on that written doctor's evaluation, and clearance that it is not contagious.



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- **Conjunctivitis (pink eye):** Children will be sent home if there appears to be an unusual amount of discharge from or irritation to their eye(s) and must stay home the next day for observation. Before returning to school they will need an evaluation and diagnosis from their doctor in writing of exactly what it is. If the diagnosis is BACTERIAL CONJUNCTIVITIS children must have received at least 24 hours of treatment.  
If the diagnosis is VIRAL CONJUNCTIVITIS your child may return AS LONG AS THERE IS NO DISCHARGE.  
If in fact they do not have “pink eye” we need a doctor's note with a diagnosis and a clearance that it is not contagious.
- **Thick White, Green or Yellow Discharge:** Children will be sent home if they appear to have any thick white, green or yellow discharge. This is often indicative of an infection and they **must stay home the next day for observation**. Before returning to school they will need an evaluation and diagnosis from their doctor in writing and at least 24 hours of treatment. If in fact they do not have an infection we need a doctor's note with a diagnosis of exactly what it is with a clearance that it is nothing contagious. The Department of Health and most doctors are of the opinion that once on antibiotics for 24 hours, the discharge is no longer contagious even though it may persist for up to two weeks.
- **Diarrhea:** Children will be sent home if they have **three or more loose bowel movements** in one day and must stay home the next day for observation. Before returning to school (after the day of observation) children must be free from diarrhea for 24 hours with at least 1 regular bowel movement. **If your child has one or more loose bowel movements on their first day back, they will again be sent home.**
- **Vomiting:** Children will be sent home if they vomit and must stay home the next day for observation. Before returning to school (after the day of observation) children must symptom free with no vomiting for at least 24 hours.



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- **Persistent Hacking Cough:** Children will be sent home if they have a persistent hacking cough and must stay home the next day for observation. Before returning to school they will need an evaluation and diagnosis from their doctor in writing and at least 24 hours of treatment. If in fact they do not require any treatment we need a doctor's note with a diagnosis of exactly what it is with a clearance that it is not contagious.
- **Lice:** Children will not be readmitted until 24 hours after treatment and must be nit free. The Director or a Lead Teacher will make an evaluation and determine if the child can be readmitted.

### Common Cold Policy

Children suffering from a common cold will be assessed on an individual basis.

Factors of consideration include the developmental level of your child in congruence with our ability to limit the spread of germs.

**The younger your child, the more difficult it is to keep the spread of germs down.** For example: hand to face contact, mouthing of toys, uncontrolled nasal discharge, uncovered sneezing and coughing etc.

### Medication Administration

Medications both prescription and over the counter will not be given at school; the ONLY exceptions involve special or serious problems where it deemed absolutely necessary by the physician that the medication be given during school hours. The parent is urged, with the help of your child's physician, to work out a schedule of giving medication at home, outside school hours whenever possible.

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By signing below, I, \_\_\_\_\_, certify that I have read the above policies and will follow the protocol established by High Hope Academy and that failure to do so can result in possible suspension/termination of childcare services.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parents Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**