



**Play Centers, Inc. / Play and Learn**  
"Your First Choice for Quality Child Care and Education"  
in Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City,  
and Baltimore County



## Illness and Medication Policies

*Please Do Not Send a Sick Child to the Center*

- Play Centers cannot leave a child unattended inside; therefore, we cannot honor your requests that children stay inside during outside time. If your child cannot go outside, then it is best that he/she stays at home.
- **Children must be free of fever (100 or higher), vomiting and/or diarrhea for at least 24 hours before returning to the center.**
- After an absence due to illness for three days or more, Play Centers will re-admit your child after the Center Director has been given a written statement by the parent or physician that the child may return.
- An operator may not knowingly admit a child to child care during the period of communicability of a communicable disease, unless the child is undergoing treatment and the child's readmission is approved, in writing, by a licensed health practitioner.
- If your child becomes ill while in the center, a safe isolation area will be provided short-term until an adult arrives to pick him/her up.
- A Medication Authorization Form is required for each medication. This form includes the child's name, medication name, dosage, side effects, parent and physician signatures, etc. Details on administration are also recorded on this form.
- A new Medication Authorization Form is required at the beginning of each 12-month period, for each specific medication, and each time there is a change to dosage or time administered.
- Medication Authorizations from the parent and physician must be specific as to dispensing information. Directions to give "as needed" (PRN) is insufficient. Detailed information must be provided as to the specific conditions under which a medication should be administered by staff.
- OTC medications must be in the original container with the label intact, clearly labeled with instructions for dosage, and expiration date.
- Topical ointments, creams, sunscreen, and insect repellent, when used as a *preventative* measure, are not medications and may be applied with "parent only" permission. Physician authorization is not required unless the ointment, etc. becomes a *treatment*.
- Play Centers' staff will only dispense prescription or OTC medications with written authorization from the parent/guardian and the licensed health practitioner.
- Prescription medications must be in the original container, labeled by the pharmacy or physician with the child's name, dosage, expiration date, etc.
- Play Centers' staff are not permitted to give the first dose of any medication.
- It is preferred that maintenance dosages of medications be given at times other than during program hours, if at all possible.
- All medications will be stored in a medication box at the center.
- If medically indicated, a child 6 years or older will be authorized to self-carry an *emergency* medication. Specific procedures are in place for facilitating this emergency health situation *and must be fully pre-approved before self-carry may begin*. Please see the Center Director for further information.
- An adult must bring all medications to the Center Director. All expired medications will be returned to the parent. Non-expired, authorized medications are required to be on-site at all times that child is in Our care.
- Accidents or medical problems resulting from false information will not be the responsibility of Play Centers.