

## HEALTH POLICY

The Garden is required by law to keep immunization records on file for each student. Please have your physician complete and return the immunization form at least two weeks prior to the first day your child attends school. Children are required by the state to have a medical and dental exam during the "kindergarten" year. Children who will be five years old on or before January 31 will receive the necessary forms and instructions well in advance.

The following is a list of symptoms to guide you in deciding whether your child should be sent to school. **DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL ON DAYS WHEN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS ARE PRESENT:**

- FEVER (temperature over 98.6) - please keep the child home until the temperature has been normal for 24 hours without a fever reducer.
- RASH - keep the child home until the rash is gone or has been identified by your doctor as non-contagious.
- COUGH- any child with a severe cough should be kept at home.
- HEAVY NASAL DISCHARGE
- DIARRHEA or other intestinal upsets – please keep the child home until the diarrhea has been gone for 24 hours
- VOMITING or severe nausea – please keep the child home until the vomiting has been gone for 24 hours
- SORE THROAT
- COLD SYMPTOMS - keep a child with a "fresh" cold home 48 to 72 hours (2 to 3 days), and until the child is showing improvement.
- CONJUNCTIVITIS – red, blood shot and crusty eyes. The child will not be allowed to attend school until he/she has had antibiotic eye drop treatment for a **MINIMUM OF 24 HOURS**.
- LACK OF SLEEP- if your child has had insufficient or interrupted sleep.

Any child with a contagious illness **SHOULD NOT** be sent to school until your doctor can tell you that the contagious period is past. Remember that not only is it unfair to expose other children and staff unnecessarily, but often the sick child's resistance is low, and so could easily contract another infection. Also, any child returning to school after an illness should be able to participate in outdoor activities as this is an intrinsic part of The Garden's regular program.

School personnel will administer medication only if requested to do so in writing by the parent or caregiver. Parents should request the special form available in the office. Specify in writing what the medication is and what time the medication should be given, and the dosage. The container should be child-proof and clearly marked with the child's name, name of medication, dosage, and schedule. Medication should be given to the adult who meets your child at the door. **DO NOT SEND MEDICATION IN COAT POCKETS OR SCHOOL LUNCH BAGS.**

The Garden Montessori School does not apply any medication to a wound other than water to wash it, apply ice, or a Band-Aid. Many children react unexpectedly to seemingly benign medical compounds such as hydrogen peroxide, calamine, sunscreen, lotions, etc.