

Giant Step Policy for Influenza Type Illness

Based on recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC)

Illness Policy:

1. **Children who live with people showing flu-like symptoms or have the Flu**, should remain home for 5 days from the day a family member gets sick.
2. **Children or staff with flu-like symptoms** may be turned away at the door or sent home if displaying flu-like symptoms, at the discretion of staff.
3. **People with flu-like illness should stay home** for at least 7 days after the onset of their symptoms. Please consult with your physician!
4. **Symptoms:** H1N1 virus symptoms can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headaches, chills, and fatigue, and sometimes diarrhea and vomiting. Fever can persist for 3-5 days. Please consult with your physician, the flu virus is highly contagious.

Closure Policy:

1. If 1 Giant Step staff member becomes ill with flu-like symptoms, Giant Step will close (for the safety of the children and the community) for the recommended 5-7 days. During this time, Giant Step will make every effort to clean and disinfect common areas, surfaces, and toys/ materials in use.
2. If 25% of children (4) at Giant Step become ill with flu-like symptoms, the parents and guardians will be notified as soon as possible, and Giant Step will be closed per recommendations of CDC, see above.
3. In the event that Rangely Public Schools closes because of illness (any type), Giant Step must also close. Please remember: If your child is too sick to attend public school, they are too sick to attend Giant Step also.
4. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) may recommend closure before severe illness occurs in the community to decrease the spread of flu.
5. Parents should develop an alternate child care plan in case of closure.
6. Policy may be revised at any time pursuant to guidance from CDC.

Preventive Step:

CDC recommends that students, faculty, and staff be encouraged to wash their hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing, and upon entering the building! Please practice this at home also. Children learn by example!

Routine Cleaning:

1. Floors, bathrooms, sinks, water table, high-touch surfaces (such as doorknobs), and all tables in dining area are cleaned and sanitized daily.
2. Toys, dress-up materials, and sand table are cleaned and disinfected weekly.
3. Soiled (sneezed upon, chewed on or handed with questionable hands) are removed from circulation and washed and disinfected before returned to the room.
4. Our wastebaskets are no-touch, and emptied daily. Sanitized weekly or on a need basis.