

**City of Refuge Children's Ministry
Medical Statement – Draft Pending Staff/Elder Approval
January 2015**

Children's Ministry at City of Refuge Church strongly encourages parents to allow their child to stay home and rest if one or more of the following symptoms have occurred within 24 hours prior to attending a Children's Ministry sponsored event or program. Please make the decision to stay or play based on what symptoms you see at the time. For example, a stomach ache could be the beginning of vomiting or diarrhea.

For the good health and safety of all children and ministry staff, Children's Ministry will not accept a child who exhibits signs of sickness for Sunday morning programming or other church events.

Children with the following symptoms may be contagious.

- A fever of 100 degrees or higher or having had a fever during the previous 24 hours.
- Persistent cough, sore throat, watery eyes, runny or stuffy nose with yellow or green colored mucous.
- Scabies, impetigo, rash, skin infection or open sore.
- Lice or nits in the hair.
- Nausea in past 24 hours.
- Vomiting in past 24 hours.
- Diarrhea in past 24 hours.
- Eye infections such as pink eye.
- Fussy, cranky, grumpy and generally "out of sorts".
- Has any symptoms of possible communicable disease – sore or strep throat, headache, muscle or body aches.

Children's Ministry paid or volunteer staff may refuse admittance to a child that meets any of the conditions stated above.

When deciding whether to stay or play, three important things to think about are as follows....

- 1. Does your child's illness keep him or her from comfortably taking part in ministry activities?**
- 2. Does your child require more care than the paid and volunteer staff can give without affecting the health and safety of other children?**
- 3. Could other children get sick from being near your child?**

Please keep in mind that other children can get sick because of the illness your child may bring to ministry programming.

Children's Ministry at City of Refuge respectfully asks parents to refrain from giving children any medications to mask symptoms mentioned above.

Children who have been ill should not return to programming at City of Refuge until they are free of symptoms for at least 24 hours. Rest can be a preventative to serious illness.

If your child has been exposed to a communicable disease such as the flu, chicken pox, pink eye, ringworm, impetigo, etc... please contact Children's Ministry at City of Refuge as soon as possible.

If a child does become ill during ministry activities, the parent or guardian will be contacted immediately and advised to take the child home to rest and recuperate.

Children's Ministry at City of Refuge Church strives to provide a safe and healthy environment for all children and paid/volunteer ministry staff. If your child is sick or has been ill within the past 24 hour period, Children's Ministry asks that your child stay and get necessary rest at home.

**Information compiled courtesy of
American Academy of Pediatrics
Houston Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**