

January 22, 2015

Dear Families:

As we do any time there is a health threat in the community, such as the current measles outbreak, we want to make sure we are addressing any concerns. The health and well-being of the children in our care are our most important responsibilities, and we want to make you aware of the following measures we are taking to protect those in our child care centers.

These guidelines are based on information gathered from the Centers for Disease Control, the local Health Department, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, although there may be some differences due to the fact that we care for infants in addition to older children.

- We are reviewing the immunization records for all staff and are strongly recommending that all staff receive the measles (MMR) vaccination or booster, as applicable.
- Because infants under 12 months of age cannot be immunized against the measles, we will be limiting access to the infant rooms during this time, including sibling visits. Only parents and those who are caring for the children in the room will be allowed in the infant rooms during this time.
- If any child (including infants under one), staff, or parent is exposed to the measles or has a family member who has measles, and they have not been immunized, they are required to stay out of the center for 21 days.
- We strongly encourage all parents to make sure that all their and their children's vaccines, particularly the MMR vaccine, are up to date. We want to protect everyone in our center and encourage as many people as possible to get vaccinated.

As you know, the safety, health, and hygiene procedures that are standard policy at Bright Horizons centers and schools are the best basic protection against the spread of any virus. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we work together to keep our children, families, and staff healthy. If we think it is necessary, we will make any and all appropriate updates to this policy as the situation progresses. As always, please contact your director with questions, but if you would like further information about measles, you can visit the CDC website at <u>www.cdc.gov.</u>

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