ILLNESS ALERT: Conjunctivitis (“pink eye”)

Date: _____

Please be advised that a child in our facility has presented symptoms of Conjunctivitis. Please read below for more information about this communicable disease and how to prevent illness.

What is Pink Eye? Pink eye is an inflammation of the transparent membrane that lines the eyelid and eyeball.

Symptoms:

Strep throat can cause a range of symptoms that may include:

- Redness in one or both eyes.
- Itchiness in one or both eyes.
- A gritty feeling in one or both eyes.
- A discharge in one or both eyes that forms a crust during the night that may prevent your eye or eyes from opening in the morning.
- Tearing.
- Sensitivity to light, called photophobia.

How long is a pink eye contagious? Pink eye (conjunctivitis) generally remains contagious as long as your child has tearing and matted eyes. Pink eye is commonly caused by viruses or bacteria. Depending on the cause of your child's pink eye, signs and symptoms usually improve within a few days to two weeks.

Exclusion from School or Childcare: Children diagnosed with pink eye should remain home until they have been on eye drops for at least 24 hours or two rounds.

Program actions: The affected classroom(s) have been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, including all toys, surfaces, and shared materials. Staff members are reinforcing hand hygiene practices and encouraging children to cover coughs and sneezes to prevent further transmission.

Contact the Ohio Department of Health or visit:
https://www.odh.ohio.gov
https://www.cdc.gov/norovirus/index.html