

When You Should Call the Child's Parents

Parents, child care providers and caregivers often ask, "When should you call the parents in case of illness or accidents?"

Here are six possible reasons to call a parent and ask if the parent can come to be with the child as soon as possible.

1. FEVER

If a child has a temperature of 100 degrees F (taken by mouth)

If a child has a temperature of 99 degrees F (taken under arm)

2. DIARRHEA

If a child has two loose or watery stools, even if there are no signs of illness, call the parents.

Exception: This may occasionally be caused by new foods a child has eaten, but call the parents to find out if this is the likely cause.

3. VOMITING

Any vomiting is a reason to call a parent.

Exception: Some babies may "burp up" following a feeding – this is not vomiting.

4. RASH

If the child develops any rash, call the parent.

Exception: Mild diaper rash, already known to the parents is not a reason to call the parents.

5. CRYING AND COMPLAINING FOR A LONG TIME

Any time a child is not "herself" or "himself" and is complaining about discomfort or is just cranky and crying more than usual for that child.

6. INJURY

Call the parent for any accidents and call the parent and medical assistance for any serious accidents or injury.