

# Pink Eye Notification

On \_\_\_\_\_ a child from this childcare center was diagnosed with bacterial conjunctivitis or **pink eye**.

**What is it?** Pink eye is an inflammation of the whites of the eye or inside of the eyelids.

## What to watch for?

- Redness in the whites of the eyes
- Red and swollen eyelids, lots of tears
- A sandy feeling in the eye
- There may be a discharge that causes eyelids to stick together during sleep.

## How to prevent it?

- Washing hands frequently will prevent the spread of the bacteria.
- Do not share towels, handkerchiefs, or washcloths with a person who has pinkeye.

## What can we do at home?

- Apply cold or warm compresses to relieve discomfort.
- Gently wipe the edge of the eyelid with moist cotton or a clean, wet washcloth to remove encrusted material.
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly after touching eyes.

## When do we call the doctor?

- Pain in the eye, burning, or loss of vision not cleared by blinking
- Eye is sensitive to light
- Eyelid or skin around the eye is red
- Redness with a greenish-yellow discharge that does not go away in 24 hours
- Any symptoms lasting longer than 7 days.