



## **Parent Checklist for Child Care Programs COVID-19 Guidelines**

Updated October 8, 2021

### **What are the Hygiene, Cleaning & Disinfecting Policies & Procedures?**

- Practice appropriate hand hygiene by handwashing with soap, running warm water, and disposable paper towels; alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing 60% or more alcohol for areas where handwashing is not available/practical, for children over 2 years old.
- Staff and children must wash hands:
  - Upon arrival
  - when they are dirty,
  - Between all program activities
  - After using the restroom or diapering assisting children with toileting,
  - When returning to the classroom/program from outside or another space
  - Before & after eating
  - Staff - before and after food handling or eating, after handling pets or other animals,
  - After contact with any bodily secretion or fluid,
  - Staff - before and after the administration of medications
  - Before departing
- Throughout the day, clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces (e.g. door handles, light switches, children's chairs, multi-seat strollers, playground railings and hand holds.
- Tables and high chairs are cleaned and sanitized before and after children eat at them. Food preparation areas are cleaned and sanitized before and after snacks and lunch is prepared.
- Regularly clean/disinfect equipment, toys, and materials using appropriate products
- Limit children from using toys that cannot be cleaned/sanitized (e.g. dress-up clothes, puppets, and stuffed animals).

### **Does the Program Conduct Daily Health Checks/Screening for Children, Families, Employees and Visitors?** *Programs have always needed to do a daily health check. Now it is ramped up and they should be asking about people in the household.*

- Daily health checks (e.g. questionnaire, temperature check)
- Screen by asking about child and household members: Since 6/28/21 this is optional
  - COVID-19 symptoms in the past 14 days
  - positive COVID cases in the past 14 days
  - close or nearby contact with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case in past 14 days
  - Any recent travel



### **What is the Program's Exclusion Criteria?**

Child or staff member should not attend or should be sent home with symptoms including:

- Fever – 100.4° or higher
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills or repeated shaking with chills
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Responses based upon questionnaire

### **How are Children & Staff Monitored for Symptoms of Illness?**

- Staff & children must be monitored throughout the day for any symptoms of illness
- A sick child or staff should be immediately sent home
- Immediately notify the local health department about any positive COVID-19 test result by an employee or child
- A plan should be shared with parents on what the program would do if they learn/or are informed that an unvaccinated staff member or child has COVID-19; this could include closing the classroom or program for 10 days.

### **How Does the Program Handle Physical Distancing?**

There is no current guidance but here are some suggestions and previous practices that were part of the initial guidance.

- Stagger arrival and pick-up times
- When feasible, limit parents from entering the programs by staff welcoming the child at the door or bring the child out to the parent/guardian at the end of the day. However, as per regulations a program must have an open-door policy and allow parents access to the program. This should only happen after parent has been screened.
- Centers - Do staff and children stay together throughout the day.
- Centers - Ensure that different stable groups of children do not utilize common spaces at the same time as another group
- Caring for and supervising young children requires staff to be near and interacting with children. Unvaccinated staff should distance at least 6 ft. at all times, unless caring for a child requires being closer.

### **What Type of Protective Equipment Does the Program Use?**

- Face Coverings – All people age 2 and older who are able to medically tolerate a face covering, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a mask indoors. This includes parents during drop off and pick up times.
- Staff must be trained on how to put on, take off, clean, and discard masks & gloves.



**Program COVID-19 Vaccination Policy –**

It is not mandated by the state for child care providers to be vaccinated from COVID; however, a child care program can have their own policy and requirements.

- Does the program have and will it share its policy on staff being required to be vaccinated for the COVID-19 vaccine?
- What percentage of staff/caregivers in the program have received the COVID vaccine and/or are full vaccinated?