

## COVID Illness Policy

To ensure health and wellness for our children, families, and staff, Park Place Daycare follows the recommendations regarding the Corona Virus (COVID-19) outlined by Vancouver Coastal Health and the Provincial Medical Health Officers. We will continue to follow Sneezes and Diseases for our guidelines for most illnesses.

COVID 19: Public Health guidance for Childcare Settings:

[http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID19\\_PublicHealthGuidanceChildcareFacilities.pdf](http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID19_PublicHealthGuidanceChildcareFacilities.pdf)

### Procedure

As per recommended child care illness prevention guidelines, symptoms that should exclude a child from attending child care, and thus a child is considered sick (should stay home or will be sent home) when any of the following are present, specifically regarding **reducing COVID spread:**

- **An acute cold with fever, runny nose and eyes, cough or congestion, laboured breathing**
- They have a fever over 37.5 C
- Infected looking eyes or skin
- Any type of contagious or communicable disease (such as flu, measles, mumps, rubella, chicken pox, etc.)
- Unexplained diarrhea or loose stool
- Nausea, vomiting or abdominal cramps

If a child becomes ill at daycare (see above) educators will:

- **Remove the child from the group to a sleep room or the couch at the front lobby, ensuring continuous supervised by a teacher**
- Contact the parent/guardian to request pick up **within 1 hour**
- If the parent/guardian is unreachable, an alternative emergency contact will be called
- Educator plays their role in illness prevention in their day to day practices. These practices, such as proper hand washing, diapering, toileting, and food preparation, will limit the spread of bacteria and viruses.

Families are asked to report each morning by writing on the sheet provided by the caregivers.

- **An acute cold with fever, runny nose and eyes, cough or congestion, laboured breathing**
- Any contact with Covid 19 patients...this will be a positive response for all Doctors and Nurses currently working with COVID 19 patients. The Daycare understands that all Doctors and Nurses take appropriate caution at work and their child and or children will not be excluded from the Daycare.
- Any contagious or communicable disease
- Unexplained diarrhea or loose stool
- Nausea, vomiting or abdominal cramps

We expect that parents will not bring a child with a fever as above. During the day Caregivers will at each rest time take the temperature of each child in care using the no contact thermometer provided. This will be done to ensure that a fever does not develop here at the Daycare. They will report immediately to the desk if there is a fever and follow the instructions above.

As per BC Child Care Licensing Regulations, section 54:

[http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/loo96/loo96/332\\_2007#section54](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/loo96/loo96/332_2007#section54)

- Educators will ensure while under supervision, a quiet and clean resting area for the child.
- **Notification of the medical health officer/LO if a child in the program has a reportable communicable disease/COVID 19 confirmation**
- If the situation develops into a medical emergency, 911 will be called.

### Child Care Program Staff:

- Can continue to work with NO signs of illness (cough, fever, runny nose/eyes, vomiting/diarrhea, communicable disease, etc.)
- IF an educator becomes ill:
  - They access any sick days they have up to a total of 10 working days.
  - If the educator runs out of sick days, they will have the choice to access the EI system or WCB

- They may return to work with no illness symptoms and a signed doctor note stating they have no contagious disease/virus (Ex. Hay fever/allergies)
- IF an educator has confirmed COVID-19 they are to be symptom free for 14 days and produce a doctor note before returning to work
- Park Place Child Care will ensure one “extra” ECE educator is present to facilitate any of the above situations.

Additional Resource: **Preventing Illness in Child Care Settings Sneezes and Diseases** published by Vancouver Coastal Health

COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for Child Care Settings  
May 15, 2020

## Appendix A. Summary of Child Care-Based Control Measures

**1. STAY HOME WHEN SICK**  
*All children and staff with common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other respiratory diseases must stay home and self-isolate.*

**2. HAND HYGIENE**  
*Everyone should wash their hands more often!*  
*Thorough hand washing with plain soap and water for at least 20 seconds is the most effective way to reduce the spread of illness.*

**3. RESPIRATORY AND PERSONAL HYGIENE**  
*Cover your coughs.*  
*Do not touch your face.*  
*No sharing of food, drinks, or personal items.*

**4. PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND MINIMIZING PHYSICAL CONTACT**  
*Spread children out to different areas.*  
*Take them outside more often.*  
*Stagger lunch times. Incorporate individual activities.*  
*Remind children, "Hands to Yourself!"*

**5. CLEANING AND DISINFECTION**  
*Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least twice a day.*  
*General cleaning of the centre should occur at least once a day.*  
*Use common cleaning and disinfectant products.*

Appendix B. Protocol for child or staff with symptoms of COVID-19 in a child care setting

Child with Symptoms of COVID-19	Staff with Symptoms of COVID-19
<b>IF CHILD DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT HOME:</b>	<b>IF STAFF DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT HOME:</b>
<p>Parents or caregivers must keep their child at home for a minimum of 10 days from the onset of symptoms AND until symptoms resolve, whichever is longer.</p>	<p>Staff must be excluded from work, stay home and self-isolate for a minimum of 10 days from the onset of symptoms AND until all symptoms resolve, whichever is longer.</p>
<b>IF CHILD DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS WHILE AT CHILD CARE:</b>	<b>IF STAFF DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS WHILE AT WORK:</b>
<p>Staff must take the following steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify a staff member to supervise the child.</li> <li>2. Identified staff member should immediately separate the symptomatic child from others in a supervised area until they can go home.</li> <li>3. Contact the child's parent or caregiver to pick them up right away.</li> <li>4. Where possible, maintain a distance of 2 metres from the ill child. If this is not possible, the staff member may use a mask if available and tolerated, or use a tissue to cover their nose and mouth.</li> <li>5. Provide the child with tissues, and support as necessary so they can practice respiratory hygiene.</li> <li>6. Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area.</li> <li>7. Avoid touching the child's body fluids. If you do, wash your hands.</li> <li>8. Once the child is picked up, wash your hands.</li> <li>9. Clean and disinfect the space where the child was separated and any areas used by the child (e.g., bathroom, common areas).</li> <li>10. If concerned, contact 8-1-1 or the local public health unit to seek further advice.</li> </ol> <p>Parents or caregivers must pick up their child promptly once notified that their child is ill.</p>	<p>Staff should go home right away where possible.</p> <p>If unable to leave immediately, the symptomatic staff person should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Separate themselves into an area away from others.</li> <li>2. Maintain a distance of 2 metres from others.</li> <li>3. Use a tissue or mask to cover their nose and mouth while they wait for a replacement or to be picked up.</li> <li>4. Remaining staff must clean and disinfect the space where staff was separated and any areas used by them (e.g., office, bathroom, common areas).</li> <li>5. If concerned, contact 8-1-1 or the local public health unit to seek further advice.</li> </ol>
<p><i>If a child or staff member is assessed by their family physician or nurse practitioner and it is determined that they do NOT have COVID-19, they may return to child care once symptoms resolve.</i></p>	