

ENHANCED HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY – COVID-19

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Purpose

The following guidelines have been created to assist you in managing risk associated with COVID-19 spread within our childcare homes. Wee Watch has developed these guidelines in alignment with Public Health and Ministry of Education guidelines for Operations during COVID-19 outbreak. All existing Wee Watch policies and procedures continue to be in effect. These guidelines outline additional measures that must be taken on top of our current procedures, or specific guidelines that may be different than existing protocols. These additional measures are required to be in place until otherwise notified. Agencies, staff, and Providers must operate with these enhanced health and safety measures in place immediately. Failure to comply with the guidelines by Providers may result in a Follow-up or Deficiency notice, disassociation from the Agency or in most extreme cases a monetary fine from the Ministry.

Symptoms of COVID-19: As Outlined on the Screening Poster from TPH

It is important that the symptoms of COVID-19 are known and understood. The symptoms of COVID-19 as currently outlined by Health Canada are:

Symptoms for Adults - Providers, Household members, Home Visitors, Parents of childcare children	Symptoms for children
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Fever and/or chills (temperature of 37.8C or higher) <input type="checkbox"/> Cough (Continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing; not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways, or other known causes or conditions you already have) <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath- (out of breath, unable to breathe deeply; not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions you already have) <input type="checkbox"/> Tired, sore muscles or joints – Unusual, fatigue, lack of energy (not related to depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction, sudden injury, fibromyalgia or other known causes or conditions you already have) <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease or loss of taste and smell- (not related to seasonal allergies, neurological disorders, or other known causes or conditions you already have) <p>For Providers, Household members, Home Visitors, Parents of childcare children, we recommend using the online, https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/98d0-Screening-Poster-Staff-Visitors-Child-Care-Day-Camp-School.pdf</p> <p>Which outlines next steps for Providers, Household members, Home Visitors, Parents of childcare children with symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Fever and/or chills (temperature of 37.8C or higher) <input type="checkbox"/> Cough (continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing; not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways, or other known causes or conditions you already have) <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty breathing – (out of breath, unable to breathe deeply; not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions you already have) <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease in loss of smell or taste (not related to seasonal allergies, neurological disorders, or other known causes or conditions you already have) <input type="checkbox"/> Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea (not related to know conditions like IBS) <p>For children, we recommend using the online, https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/8faf-Survey-poster-Child-care-centres-TPH-June-2020.pdf</p> <p>Which outlines next steps for children with symptoms.</p>

Procedures to Implement in Care Homes

Daily Screening for Symptoms

All individuals, including Providers and those living in their household and children attending care and their parents/guardians must self-screen **every day** in advance of attending or providing care. We require you use the latest Toronto Public Health Screening Poster Questions.

Screening Procedures for Providers:

1. Providers must answer all screening questions daily for themselves and anyone living in their home regardless of age
2. If the answer to all screening questions for all household members is “No”, and all household members have a temperature below 37.8C, the Provider can open
3. If the Provider or anyone in their household responds ‘Yes’ to any question they must contact the Agency **immediately** – their home may need to be closed for the day or longer depending on the direction of your local Public Health department.
4. If the Provider or her household members are feeling ill, even if symptoms resemble a mild cold, they must contact the Agency **BEFORE** any children arrive for the day.
5. If children, parents, household members, Providers or Home Visitors are experiencing symptoms such as headache, fatigue, muscle aches and/or joint pain within 48 hours of being vaccinated they can attend care (or the home can remain open) and they should respond “no” to the question about symptoms on the Screening Tool
6. In these cases, the Provider or child must wear a mask at all times (no exemptions) during care hours and until symptoms dissipate
7. If symptoms persist longer than 48 hours post-vaccination or they develop other symptoms they need to leave care, for Providers, they should contact the agency immediately and the home should be closed. Contact public health, isolate and get tested

Daily Screening Procedures for Parents/children

1. All children attending care and their parents must self-screen **daily** in advance of the child attending care. Parents and anyone entering the home must answer the **Screening questions**. If anyone in the home has one symptom listed above, they must stay home and self-isolate and get tested. These questions should be **posted** visibly at the entry door/area of the Provider’s home.
2. Parents must take their child’s **temperature at home before they bring** the child to the Provider’s home. If the temperature is above 37.8C they should contact the agency to let them know.
3. If symptoms persist longer than 48 hours post-vaccination or they develop other symptoms they need to leave care, for Providers, they should contact the agency

immediately and the home should be closed. Please contact public health, isolate and get tested

4. Screen all children attendees prior to entry as prescribed by Toronto Public Health, refer to the Screening Poster for Child Care and the COVID-19 Decision Tool for Child Care for further information. <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/8fdc-COVID-19-Child-Care-Decision-Guide.pdf>
5. When parents arrive, the Provider will ask them if they answered “Yes” to any of the self-screening questions posted at the entry. If they answer “Yes” to any questions, they **cannot enter the home** and their child cannot be permitted into care that day. The Provider should contact the Agency for next steps.
6. If the parent did not self-screen at home, the child must be screened at the care home (i.e., temperature taken) before they proceed to enter. Providers should take appropriate precautions such as ensuring a 2-metre distance is maintained and they are wearing the required PPE (mask and eye protection).

Drop off and Pick-up Procedures

- Providers **must wear a medical mask and eye protection when answering the door** and during screening. Parents must wear a mask.
- Individuals should maintain physical distance from each other when dropping off and picking up children or waiting to enter the Provider’s home (stand at least 2 meters apart)
- No more than 1 parent/guardian at a time can enter the care home. Parents/Guardians should wait outside the home while another person is in the transition area.
- Parents should minimize time in the home. If/when parents enter the home, they and must wear a non-medical mask and the Provider must record their time in and out and their name in their Logbook, screening chart or timesheet (this is only if they enter the home past the entranceway and for a period that is longer than the standard drop off period.) This is for contact tracing purposes.
- If possible and safe, Providers can have hand sanitizer (60-90% concentration of alcohol) at the front door area and ask parents to use it before entering (if they are entering) the home as an extra precaution. If hand sanitizer is provided a poster outlining proper use should be posted.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Provider Home

- Home childcare premises should be cleaned daily, and in addition frequently touched or high touched surfaces must be cleaned and disinfected at **least twice a day** (for example, light switches, doorknobs, tables and other furnishings, railings, toilet handles and faucets)
- Providers should use a **bleach and water solution, 1 teaspoon (5mL) of bleach per cup (250 mL) of water or 4 teaspoons (20 mL) bleach per litre (1000 mL) of water**, made freshly each day.

- Wash Toys daily (either in a sink with disinfectant solution or in a dishwasher)
- Providers will maintain logs to track cleaning and disinfecting
- Opening windows when safe to do so for better air circulation

Hand Washing and Hygiene

Regular and proper hand washing is the best way to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19. Providers are to wash their hands and those of the children regularly throughout the day. Follow guidelines set out by Toronto public health which include wetting hands, applying soap and lathering for at least 15-30 seconds, rubbing between fingers and under nails and rinsing well.

We recommend Providers wash their hands:

- At the beginning of the workday and when children arrive and leave
- Before and after placing or removing a mask
- Before and after any crafts or play activities
- Before and after handling food and serving snacks/meals
- Before and after diaper checks, changes, and toileting
- Before and after giving or applying medication or ointment to a child or self
- Before and after contact with bodily fluids (i.e., runny noses, spit, vomit, blood)
- After cleaning and handling garbage

Children should wash their hands:

- When they arrive at the home and before they go home
- Before and after eating and drinking and after a diaper change and using the toilet
- After playing outside
- After sneezing or coughing into hands

Hand Sanitizer does not replace hand washing and should not be used on children less than 2 years of age. Use with children only when you do not have the ability to wash hands (i.e. out at a park with written permission). Should be 60%-90% alcohol.

Respiratory Etiquette

Providers and children in care should practice proper respiratory etiquette of sneezing or coughing into their elbow versus into their hands. Providers must post the “Proper Respiratory Etiquette” poster in their home day care.

Equipment and Toy Usage Restrictions

- Try to use toys and equipment in the home that can be cleaned and disinfected easily (i.e., avoid plush toys)
- Mouthed toys should be cleaned and disinfected immediately after the child is finished using it

- Group sensory activities such as water or sand tables, or playdough can be used. Providers must ensure that proper hand hygiene is followed before and after the use of materials
- Incorporate more individual activities or activities that encourage more space between children
- Ensure all shared items/toys are cleaned and disinfected between uses and that children are following proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette to reduce the risk of infection.

Nap/Sleep Time

- Cots and playpens should not be shared between children. If there are two part time children sharing a cot/playpen, Providers should disinfect the equipment after each child has used it and change the linen after each use
- Cots and playpens should be disinfected weekly
- Linens should be cleaned weekly at minimum and never be shared
- Where possible separate cots/playpens where children are sleeping or if there is not room, place the children head to toe or toe to toe for physical distancing

Outdoor Play

- Children should continue to play outdoors for two hours a day weather permitting. Where possible use a backyard for outdoor play or go for neighbourhood walks, follow local Public Health advice on parks and public playgrounds (as long as park is not too busy).
- Providers should encourage proper hand hygiene before and after the children have used a shared play structure
- Children should be bringing their own sunscreen, which should be labelled and cannot be shared.
- Providers are required to wear medical masks and eye protection when outdoors with children if two meters of distance cannot be maintained

Transportation and Field Trips

- The Ministry of Education and Health are now permitting Field Trips. Providers need to get approval from their Agency in advance of any field trip and must adhere to all Wee Watch policies for Field trips in addition to COVID specific requirements (i.e., permission forms)
- Providers must keep a record of the children that attended the field trips (i.e., name, time of arrival and departure of the field trip location, transportation used (if Provider's own vehicle was not used) and location visited) for contact tracing.

- Providers are required to wear medical masks when in the car with the children. Eye protection should not be worn if it interferes with the safe operation of the vehicle
- All children in grade 1 and above will be required to wear a non-medical mask when in the car with the Provider. Children below grade 1 are encouraged to wear a non-medical mask
- Providers should follow enhanced cleaning protocols including disinfection of high-touch surfaces in the car at least twice daily

Interactions with Infants/Toddlers

- Children must not share food, soothers, bottles, sippy cups etc.
- Mouthed toys must be removed immediately for cleaning and disinfecting and must not be shared with other children. Labelling the children's items is a good idea to minimize any accidental sharing.

Meals

- Providers must ensure they are following proper hand hygiene when preparing and serving the food
- Encourage outdoor eating, when possible, by following proper hand Hygiene and continue to follow safe distance policies
- Two snacks and lunch (dinner for overnight children) are still to be prepared and given to the children daily
- Children can be involved in food preparation (i.e. baking activities) if proper hand hygiene is being followed before, during and after the activity.

Visitors in the Home

- **Non-essential visitors (i.e., volunteers)** should minimize time in the homes during care hours. Home Visitors and Ministry personnel and Resource Consultants are excluded from this (they are allowed in the care home),
- All visitors will be screened in advance attending the Provider's home and will wear masks and eye protection while in the home and a mask outdoors. They must record their **time in and out in the Provider logbook, screening chart or timesheet.**
- If symptoms persist longer than 48 hours post-vaccination or they develop other symptoms they need to leave care, for Providers, should contact the agency immediately and the home should be closed. As usual they should contact public health, isolate, and get tested
- For visitors other than Home Visitor, **record the name and contact info** as well as time in and out in your logbook, screening chart or timesheet. Any visitors to the home must self-screen themselves or answer all questions as "no" or they cannot enter the home. The entry in the logbook will be used for contract tracing if required.
- Parents can contact virtually to communicate with their Provider

- To minimize the risk of COVID-19 exposure by the Home Visitor:
 - Home Visits will continue to be conducted unscheduled and in-person monthly, but can be conducted via virtual technology, such as video conferencing service (i.e. Facetime, Skype, etc.) when community infection rates spike. The Standard Home Visitor Checklist will be conducted live unless otherwise directed by the Ministry of Education.
 - Home Visitors should follow their Agency’s Home Visitor Guideline document which outlines protocols for social distancing and guidance on limits to time spent in each home
 - For any new Provider an in-person visit must be conducted before the home opens and at least 1 of the 3 visits within the first 2 months must be done in person

What to do when someone in care shows symptoms or becomes sick

Provider or member of their household

- If a member of the Provider’s household becomes sick while children are in care, they should be **isolated** away from care children. If a Provider becomes ill, they should attempt to distance as much as possible from the children until the Agency is contacted. Providers will stay visually connected to all children and provide assistance as required.
- Provider should call the Agency immediately for assistance and to call parents to pick up the children in care. Symptomatic Providers or Members of the Household should be referred for testing and Public Health will be consulted. See “Exclusions” for actions based on result of that testing.
- Hand Hygiene and respiratory etiquette should be practiced while waiting for the children to be picked up.
- Before the home is re-opened or children are returned to care, the household, in particular areas used for childcare should be deep cleaned and disinfected using the bleach solution. All items that cannot be cleaned (paper, books, cardboard games/puzzles) should be removed and stored in a sealed container for a minimum of 7 days.

Child becomes ill or show symptoms

- When a child becomes sick or shows symptoms while in care, they should be **separated** from other children in care while still being visually connected to the Provider.
- Providers should attempt to stay at a distance of 2 meters apart, depending on the age and needs of the child that is ill. Hand Hygiene and respiratory etiquette should be practiced while waiting for the child to be picked up.
- Provider should call the Agency immediately for assistance and to call parents to pick up the children in care. Symptomatic children should be referred to their health care provider for further advice or assessment. See “Exclusions” for actions based on results of tests.

- If tolerated and if the child is above 2 years old, the ill child should wear a mask (if not already wearing one due to age guidelines i.e., above 6 years of age).
- All items used by the sick person should be cleaned and disinfected. All items that cannot be cleaned (paper, books, cardboard games/puzzles) should be removed and stored in a sealed container for a minimum of 7 days
- Follow Public Health directions and guidelines for next steps, and/or inform the parents to contact their child's health care provider for further advice or assessment.
- Report to agency if any parent has communicated with you that they have been ill and have been tested for COVID-19
- If a child develops symptoms and they are staying home (as per public health or screening questions), their sibling(s) who do not have symptoms do not need to isolate until the other child tests positive for COVID, unless otherwise directed by Public Health or the Agency.

Agency Procedures

- Agency will follow all current Wee Watch Serious Occurrence Policies
- A Serious Occurrence will be communicated to the Ministry (report on CCLS) when there is a confirmed case of COVID-19, or a home has been ordered to be closed by public health.
- Ministry's definition of confirmed case of the coronavirus (COVID-19) is:
 - a. a child who receives childcare at a home childcare premises or childcare centre,
 - b. a home childcare provider,
 - c. a person who is ordinarily a resident of a home childcare premises,
 - d. a person who is regularly at a home childcare premises,
 - e. a home childcare visitor,
 - f. a staff member at a childcare centre, or
 - g. a student at a home childcare premises
- A Serious Occurrence Notification form will be posted in the Provider's home for 10 days (even if the home is closed)
- If there are two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases with staff, Provider, child, or other visitors with an epidemiological link, and where at least one of the cases was acquired in the childcare setting, this may be considered an **outbreak, in consultation** with the local public health unit. Outbreaks should be declared in **collaboration** between the agency and the local public health unit to ensure an outbreak number is provided. Communication regarding the outbreak/case will be shared by the Agency with Home Office as per the Wee Watch Serious Occurrence Policy and with parents and other impacted parties as per the direction of local Toronto public health.

Guidance for Using Masks

- All adults in the childcare setting, including Providers, Home Visitors, Ministry Personnel, and household members are required to wear medical masks when indoors (except when eating or alone in a private space) during childcare hours, unless exempt:
 - Whenever a physical distance of 2 meters can be maintained from the care children, while remaining visually connected
 - For medical conditions or reasons (i.e., Individual PPE Plan)
 - Adult household members need to wear a mask in the home when a physical distance of 2 meters cannot be maintained

Children in grade 1 and above:

- Are required to wear a non-medical or cloth mask while inside in the care home (provided by the parents),
- Exceptions generally include accommodations for medical conditions that prevent them from wearing one.
- Not required to wear masks outdoors but physical distancing should be encouraged as much as possible
- The use of a non-medical mask or face covering will be required if taking public transit to child care

Children in Kindergarten:

- Strongly recommended to wear a mask while indoors.

Children age two and above:

- Strongly recommended to wear masks in indoor spaces in feasible and tolerated.
- Required to use non-medical face masks if taking public transportation (eg TTC) this child care.

Children under the age of two:

- Masks are not recommended for children under age two.

Parents are encouraged to provide multiple masks to replace masks that are soiled or damp during the period they are in care. Parents must also provide a way to store masks when they are not in use by their child (i.e. paper bags or other case)

- If a child's mask becomes damp or visibly soiled, Providers should change the child's mask to a clean one (provided by parents).
- Children are not required to wear masks or eye protection when outdoors, but physical distancing is strongly encouraged.

- Follow Public Health guidelines regarding the proper wearing and removal of masks, wash hands before and after putting on a mask

Any exceptions will be documented by the agency. Exceptions could include medical conditions that make it difficult to wear a mask or eye protection (eg difficulty breathing, low vision); a cognitive condition or disability that prevents mask wearing, hearing impairments or when communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication, and when performing during in which a Provider/child is separated from the group.

Guidance on wearing of Eye Protection

- Providers must wear eye protection (i.e., face shield or protective glasses) when working with young children (children younger than grade 1) or when working with mixed age groupings (young children mixed with children in grade 1 and older).
- Providers do not need to wear eye protection when working with children who wear face protection, this includes children grade 1 and above
- Home Visitors and Ministry Personnel attending the Provider’s home will wear masks and eye protection while in the home

	Wear Face Mask	Wear Eye Protection
Provider	YES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answer the door • At all times during care hours (see exceptions) • When outdoors NO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With exceptions • Can be distanced from children 	YES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answer the door • If all children in care are less than grade 1 in age • If children greater than grade 1 are not wearing masks due to exceptions NO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If all children in care are over grade 1 and older
Household members	Yes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When can’t be distanced from children 	N/A
Children less than 2	Not recommended or required	N/A
Children 2- grade 1	Yes: recommended not required No: outside	N/A
Children over grade 1	Yes: when in care No: outside	N/A
Parents	Yes: when inside the home	N/A

Home Visitors/ Ministry advisors	Yes: when inside the home	Yes: if all children are less than grade 1 or not masked No: If all children in care are over grade 1 and older when inside the home
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Exclusions from Care

- Any exclusions will be made in consultation with the current Screening and the Child Care Decision Guide <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/8fdc-COVID-19-Child-Care-Decision-Guide.pdf>

When a **fully vaccinated** Child **cannot** attend care, if:

- The child has even 1 **symptom** on the list, inform the Agency and contact your doctor, Public Health or a care provider to determine if the child should be tested (fully vaccinated siblings can come to care, non-vaccinated siblings cannot attend care until the child tests negative for COVID or is cleared by Public Health), if the child does not get tested, they should stay home for 10 days unless cleared by a doctor or it has been 24 hours since the child’s symptoms have stopped
- The child is **positive for COVID-19**, they can return to care when they are cleared by public health
- The child has **travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days** and you were told to as per Federal quarantine requirements – the child cannot go to care for 14 days and cannot return to care until cleared by local public health regardless of test result. (Siblings that are fully vaccinated and have not travelled, they can come to care. If they are not vaccinated and have travelled, they cannot come to care, if they did not travel they can).
- If a doctor or health care provider has said the child **should be isolating**, they can only return to care when cleared by local public health (fully vaccinated and unvaccinated siblings can attend care)
- If the child **tested positive on an antigen test** or home care kit then the child needs to get tested at an assessment center. If negative the child can return to care, if positive can only return when cleared by public health. Vaccinated siblings can attend care. Unvaccinated siblings can’t come to care until the child tests negative on a PCR test and cleared by public health.

*Fully vaccinated means 14 days or more after getting a second dose of a two dose COVID-19 vaccine series or one dose of a single dose series.

When a Child is **not fully vaccinated**, they cannot attend care when:

- The child has even 1 **symptom** on the list, inform the Agency and contact your doctor, Public Health or a care provider to determine if the child should be tested (fully

vaccinated siblings can come to care, non-vaccinated siblings cannot attend care until the child tests negative for COVID or is cleared by Public Health), if the child does not get tested, they should stay home for 10 days unless cleared by a doctor or it has been 24 hours since the child's symptoms have stopped

- When they have been **exposed** to someone that is positive for COVID in past 10 days, inform the agency, contact your doctor or public health for direction regarding the child being tested. The child cannot return to care for 10 days even if the child receives a negative test result. Fully vaccinated and unvaccinated siblings can attend care (unless exposure is the same)
- If a **household member has symptoms** (except if they received their vaccine within 48 hours) or is waiting for the results of a covid test. The child cannot attend care until the person with symptoms tests negative or is cleared by public health or diagnosed with another illness.
- The child has **travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days** and you were told to as per Federal quarantine requirements – the child cannot go to care for 14 days and cannot return to care until cleared by local public health regardless of test result. (Siblings that are fully vaccinated and have not travelled, they can come to care. If they are not vaccinated and have travelled, they cannot come to care. (if they did not travel they can). If a doctor or **health care provider has said the child should be isolating**, they can only return to care when cleared by local public health (fully vaccinated and unvaccinated siblings can attend care)
- If the **child tested positive** on an antigen test or home care kit then the child needs to get tested at an assessment center. If negative the child can return to care, if positive can only return when cleared by public health. Vaccinated siblings can attend care. Unvaccinated siblings can't come to care until the child tests negative on a PCR test and cleared by public health.
- The child is **positive for COVID-19**, they can return to care when they are cleared by public health. We may ask parents to sign a **Return to Care Attestation** Form for our records.

When a **Provider is fully vaccinated**, they cannot offer care when:

- When the Provider has symptoms (**even 1**), they cant open their home until they test negative or are cleared by public health. Contact the Agency, contact your Doctor, care provider or public health to get advice on testing. You can reopen when cleared by public health. Fully vaccinated members of your household do not need to isolate, unvaccinated members need to stay home until the Provider tests negative.
- The Provider has **travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days**, and you were told to quarantine as per Federal quarantine requirements – you cannot open for 14 days and until cleared by local public health regardless of test result. (Household members that are fully vaccinated and have not travelled do not need to isolate.) If they are not vaccinated, they can go to work/school, but they cannot leave for non-essential reasons for 14 days)

- If a doctor or health care provider has said the Provider should be isolating, they can only reopen care when cleared by local public health (Household members that are fully vaccinated do not need to isolate. If they are not vaccinated, they can go to work/school but they cannot leave for non-essential reasons.)
- If the Provider tested positive on an antigen test or home care kit then the Provider must get tested at an assessment center. If negative the Provider can reopen, if positive they can only reopen when cleared by public health. Vaccinated household members do not need to isolate. Unvaccinated household members must isolate until the Provider tests negative on a PCR test and cleared by public health
- The Provider tests **positive for COVID-19**, they can reopen when they are cleared by public health. A medical note or proof of negative result is not required to return.

*Fully vaccinated means 14 days or more after getting a second dose of a two dose COVID-19 vaccine series or one dose of a single dose series.

Provider if not vaccinated:

- When the Provider has symptoms (even 1), they can't open their home until they test negative or are cleared by public health. Contact the Agency, contact your doctor, care provider or public health to get advice on testing. You can reopen when cleared by public health. Fully vaccinated members of your household do not need to isolate, unvaccinated members need to stay home until the Provider tests negative.
- When they have been exposed to someone that is positive for COVID in past 10 days, inform the agency, contact your doctor or public health for direction regarding being tested. The home cannot reopen for 10 days even if the Provider receives a negative test result. Fully vaccinated household members do not need to isolate, unvaccinated household members can go to work/school but not anywhere nonessential for 10 days or when the Provider is cleared by public health
- If a household member has symptoms (except if they received their vaccine within 48 hours) or is waiting for the results of a covid test. The home cannot be open until the person with symptoms tests negative or is cleared by public health or diagnosed with another illness.
- The Provider has **travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days** and you were told to quarantine as per Federal quarantine requirements – you cannot open for 14 days and until cleared by local public health regardless of test result. (Household members that are fully vaccinated and have not travelled do not need to isolate. If they are not vaccinated, they can go to work/school but they cannot leave for non-essential reasons for 14 days)
- If a doctor or health care provider has said the Provider should be isolating, they can only reopen care when cleared by local public health (Household members that are fully vaccinated and have not do not need to isolate. If they are not vaccinated, they can go to work/school but they cannot leave for non-essential reasons.
- If the Provider tested positive on an antigen test or home care kit then the Provider must get tested at an assessment center. If negative the Provider can reopen, if positive

they can only reopen when cleared by public health. Vaccinated household members do not need to isolate. Unvaccinated household members must isolate until the Provider tests negative on a PCR test and cleared by public health

- The Provider tests **positive for COVID-19**, they can reopen when they are cleared by public health

Back up Care

- Back-up care will be provided when available and at the specific direction of local Public Health. Back-up care may not be offered depending on the individual situation. (Form available at Toronto Public Health Website or contact the Agency for a copy)

Expired Requirements

- If a Vulnerable Sector Check for Providers or a household member over 19 years of age cannot be obtained due to significant backlogs, the agency must ensure and have proof that the individual has applied for a VSC and additional measures are put in place as per Wee Watch's Vulnerable Sector Check policy.
- If First Aid Certification has expired during the emergency period, the certificate has been extended until December 31, 2021. Providers must make every attempt to take training and renew their certification as soon as courses become available.
- Please contact your agency office for current extensions and course of action.

Training and Meetings

- Professional Development and other training/meetings for Providers will occur virtually (i.e. Zoom) during this period or in groups of less than 10 people if face to face is required (i.e. First Aid). Providers will be notified of cancellations or rescheduling of meetings by Agency.
- Providers and Home Visitors will be trained on Health and Safety protocols that are required and are outlined in this document; any updates will be communicated in a timely manner.

Communication with Parents

- These enhanced policies will be shared with all parents of children in care by the Agency
- Parents can contact virtually to communicate with their Provider
- Communication regarding the outbreak/case will be shared with parents and other impacted parties as per the direction of local public health

Attendance

- There is no change to the existing Wee Watch policy for recording children's attendance in the care home. Providers will leverage existing timesheets that outline the names of

the children in care, date and times they were in attendance. Agencies maintain copies of timesheets and they can be used for contact tracing if required.

- Communication with parents of School age children to follow up with absences and confirmed cases of COVID-19 in school cohorts
- Attendance records must be available on-site at all times. Keep attendance records on site for a period of 30 days.
- Any other visitors to the home are recorded in the Provider Logbook as per information in sections above in this document and those records can be used for contact tracing if required.

Returning to Care

Agency will consult with Toronto Public Health to confirm next steps.

Parents will submit the Returning to Child Care Confirmation Form (dated July 5, 2021) prior to their return date to the office/Provider. Form available at Toronto Public Health Website or contact the Agency for a copy.



COVID-19 Screening for children/students

Please complete before entering the child care/JK-12 school setting.

Updated Sept. 1, 2021

Name: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

1. Does the child/student have any of the following new or worsening symptoms?*



Fever > 37.8°C and/or chills

Yes No



Cough

Yes No



Difficulty breathing

Yes No



Decrease or loss of taste/smell

Yes No



Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

Yes No

• If the child/student has a health condition diagnosed by a health care provider that gives them the symptom, select "No". If the symptom is new, different or getting worse, select "Yes".

If "YES" to any symptom:



Stay home & self-isolate



Get tested

Or



Contact a health care provider

2. Does anyone in your household have one or more symptoms of COVID-19 and/or are waiting for test results after having symptoms?

Yes

No

• If the child/student is fully vaccinated* or has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and been cleared, select "No".

3. In the last 10 days, has the child/student tested positive on a rapid antigen test or a home-based self-testing kit?

Yes

No

• If they have since tested negative on a lab-based PCR test, select "No".

4. Has the child/student been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or been told to stay home and self-isolate?

Yes

No

• If the child/student is fully vaccinated* or has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and been cleared or public health has said the child/student does not have to self-isolate, select "No".

5. In the last 14 days, has the child/student travelled outside of Canada AND been advised to quarantine per the [federal quarantine requirements](#)?

Yes

No

If "YES" to questions 2,3,4 or 5:



Stay home & self-isolate



Follow public health advice



* Fully vaccinated means 14 days or more after getting a second dose of a two dose COVID-19 vaccine series or one dose of a single dose series.

**Anyone who is sick or has any symptoms of illness should stay home and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed.



MY CHILD/STUDENT HAS 1 OR MORE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19



THE CHILD/STUDENT SHOULD STAY HOME, SELF-ISOLATE & GET TESTED.

Notify the child care/school that they have symptoms.

WHAT WAS THE RESULT OF THE COVID-19 TEST?

POSITIVE

- Let the child care/school know that they tested positive for COVID-19.
- The child/student must stay home & self-isolate for 10 days from the day their symptoms started. They can return on day 11, even if someone else at home develops symptoms.
- Household members & close contacts who are not fully vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine* must self-isolate for at least 10 days and should get tested.
- Toronto Public Health will contact you to do an investigation & will provide further instructions.

NEGATIVE

Is the child/student a close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 10 days?

- No** They may return 24 hours after their symptoms have started improving (48 hours for nausea, vomiting or diarrhea).
- Yes** **If the child/student is not fully vaccinated*:** they need to self-isolate for 10 days from last exposure to the person who was positive.
- Yes** **If the child/student is fully vaccinated*:** they may return 24 hours after their symptoms have started improving (48 hours for nausea, vomiting or diarrhea).
- Yes** **If the child/student has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and was cleared:** they may return 24 hours after their symptoms have started improving (48 hours for nausea, vomiting or diarrhea).
- Yes** **If the child/student only received an exposure notification through the COVID Alert app:** they can return 24 hours after their symptoms have started improving (48 hours if nausea, vomiting or diarrhea).
- Siblings and adults in the home who attend a child care/school setting can return right away as long as there are no other household members with symptoms.

NOT TESTED

- The child/student must stay home & self-isolate for 10 days from the day symptoms started. On day 11, the child/student can return to the child care/school setting if their symptoms are improving.
- Anyone in the household who is not fully vaccinated* or has not tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and was cleared, must self-isolate until the child/student gets a negative COVID-19 test or 10 days have passed.
- If a health care provider has diagnosed a condition that isn't related to COVID-19, the child/student can return 24 hours after their symptoms improve (48 hours for nausea, vomiting or diarrhea). Household members do not need to stay home.



If the child/student travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days:

- The child/student must follow federal guidelines for quarantine and testing after returning from international travel.
- If the child/student is fully vaccinated they may be exempt from federal quarantine. If the child/student is not fully vaccinated, they are not to attend school/child care for 14 days, even if they traveled with a vaccinated companion.
- **Follow federal requirements for travellers.**



*Fully vaccinated means 14 days or more after getting a second dose of a two dose COVID-19 vaccine series or one dose of a single dose series.



COVID-19 Screening

For staff/visitors/adult learners at child care & school settings

Updated Sept. 2, 2021

1. Do you have any of the following new or worsening symptoms?*



Fever and/or chills



Cough



Trouble breathing



Decrease or loss of taste or smell



Tired, sore muscles or joints

* If you have a health condition diagnosed by a health care provider that gives you the symptom, select "No". If the symptom is new, different or getting worse, select "Yes".

If "YES" to any symptom:



Stay home & self-isolate



Get tested

Or



Contact a health care provider

2. Does anyone in your household have one or more of the above symptoms and/or are waiting for test results after experiencing symptoms?

Yes

No

* If you are fully vaccinated* or have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and been cleared, select "No".

3. Have you been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or been told to stay home and self-isolate?

Yes

No

* If you are fully vaccinated* or have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and been cleared or public health has told you that you do not have to self-isolate, select "No".

4. In the last 10 days, have you tested positive on a rapid antigen test or a home-based self-testing kit?

Yes

No

* If you have since tested negative on a lab-based PCR test, select "No".

5. In the last 14 days, have you travelled outside of Canada AND been advised to quarantine per the [federal quarantine requirements](#)?

Yes

No

If "YES" to questions 2,3,4 or 5:



Stay home & self-isolate



Follow public health advice



* Fully vaccinated means 14 days or more after getting a second dose of a two dose COVID-19 vaccine series or one dose of a single dose series.

**Anyone who is sick or has any symptoms of illness should stay home and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed.

Back to Child Care/Day Camp/School - Confirmation Form

Please check only one box and complete this form to confirm that your child is healthy and able to return to child care/ day camp/ school. By adding your signature, you are verifying that the information is true. Return the completed form to the child care/ day camp operator or your child's school principal. *Please note: It is up to each operator/school/school board to decide if they choose to accept and use this form.*

Student Name: _____

My child was ill:

- My child tested negative for COVID-19 and their symptoms have improved for more than 24 hours.
- My child (12 years and older) just had a COVID-19 vaccine and has symptoms of a mild headache, tiredness, sore muscles or joints that occurred within 48 hours after getting a COVID-19 vaccine. My child can return to child care/ day camp/ school and must wear a properly fitted mask.
- My child did not have a COVID-19 test, but has completed 10 days of self-isolation from when the symptom(s) started. My child does not have a fever (without the use of medication) and his/her symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours.
- My child tested positive for COVID-19 and has completed 10 days of self-isolation from when the symptom(s) started (or the test was done). My child was not hospitalized. My child does not have a fever (without the use of medication), and their symptoms are improving
- The health care provider confirmed that my child does not have COVID-19 and has diagnosed a condition that is not related to COVID-19. Their symptoms have been improving for more than 24 hours. My child does not have a cold or respiratory infection.

Someone in my household (e.g. parent, sibling) was ill with symptoms of COVID-19:

- The household member tested negative for COVID-19, and my child (name listed above) can return to school now.
- The household member had a COVID-19 vaccine and has symptoms of a mild headache, tiredness, sore muscles or joints that occurred within 48 hours after getting a COVID-19 vaccine. My child is well without symptoms and can return to child care/ day camp/ school.

- The household member had a health care provider confirm that they do not have COVID-19 and has diagnosed a condition that is not related to COVID-19. Their symptoms have been improving for more than 24 hours. They are well and do not have a cold or respiratory condition. My child (name listed above) can return to school now.
- The household member did not have a COVID-19 test, but my child (listed above) completed 14 days of self-isolation. My child is well with no symptoms.

Close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19:

- My child was a close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19 and has completed 14 days of self-isolation. My child is well with no symptoms.
- My child was a close contact of someone who tested positive for COVID-19. My child has received two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and it has been more than 14 days since the last dose. My child is well with no symptoms.

Recent travel outside of Canada:

- My child has returned from travel outside of Canada. My child stayed home for the 14 day travel quarantine period. My child is well with no symptoms.
- My child has returned home from travel outside of Canada. My child is fully vaccinated (has received two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and it has been more than 14 days since the last dose), prior to their entry into Canada. My child is well with no symptoms.

Date of COVID-19 test (if applicable): _____ (day/ month/ year)

I declare that my child is well, and is able to return to school.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____ (day/ month/ year)