

COVID-19 GUIDANCE: CHILDCARE

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

According to the CDC, **children do not seem to be at higher risk for getting COVID-19.** People at an **increased risk** for severe illness from COVID-19 include **older adults and people who have chronic medical conditions** like heart disease, diabetes and lung diseases. **There is currently no vaccine** to protect against COVID-19. **The best way to prevent COVID-19 infection is to limit exposure.**



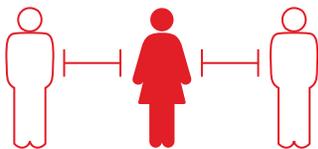
Clean + disinfect frequently touched surfaces multiple times a day (e.g., doorknobs, light switches, countertops).



Monitor + encourage healthy behaviors.

- Staying home when sick.
- Handwashing.
- Covering cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throwing the tissue in the trash.

Ensure hand hygiene supplies are readily available.



Implement social distancing measures.

- Alter schedules to reduce mixing (e.g., stagger recess, entry + dismissal times).
- Limit interaction among children.



Establish procedures to ensure children + staff who become sick at childcare or arrive sick **are sent home as soon as possible.**

Consider regular health checks for temperature and respiratory symptoms in children, staff + visitors.



Monitor + plan for absenteeism. If you notice two or more cases of similar illness, linked in person, place or time, **alert local health officials.**

Make yourself available to listen + talk.

Children react to both what you say + how you say it. Give children information that is truthful and appropriate for the age and developmental level of the child.