

Pandemic Policy and Procedure Add Ins

- In addition to our regular sick policy, there will be no tolerance for any symptoms of sickness or being unwell, especially when symptoms are respiratory in nature and mimic signs of COVID-19 (including the common cold and seasonal flu). COVID-19 symptoms include, but are not limited to the following: fever, chills, cough, and shortness of breath, loss of sense of smell or taste, diarrhea and nausea and vomiting.

Anyone with these symptoms is asked by public health to get tested. **We require a negative COVID-19 test or a minimum of 10 days of isolation at home.** More info can be found at the BC Centre for Disease Control's website.

- Additional symptoms of COVID-19 such as sore throat, runny and stuff nose, headache, fatigue, loss of appetite, dizziness and confusion are still considered to be sign of sickness and children should be at home if they are experiencing them. Adults should not be attending the centre with these symptoms.
- If a child is sent home with signs of sickness we ask for **48 hours** of clearance before they are brought back
- We will be consulting 811 prior to sending a child home if covid like symptoms, or cross symptoms are the main concern
- If we have asked that your child be tested due to signs of respiratory illness, you may return with a negative COVID-19 test and fever free, or after 10 days of the onset of symptoms
- Siblings of children who are awaiting a negative test result must stay home until a negative test result comes in. If you are choosing not to have a test done sibling must isolate at home for 14 days. We do not require proof of testing at this time, however appreciate a screen shot or copy of results
- If after 10 days symptoms still persist please contact 811 or your healthcare for more information on next steps
- We ask that if parents and caregivers are unwell and actively exhibiting signs of the common cold, that they do not drop off their children or enter the centre
- Children displaying signs of sickness will immediately be isolated and must be picked up as soon as possible as isolation always requires a staff's presence.
- We require absence from the daycare for 14 days following a return from international air travel
- If someone has been contacted by public health that they are a close contact of a COVID-19 case, self-isolation is required for 14 days from the last day of contact
- Staff are required to wash their hands upon entry, after breaks and bathroom use, and handling cash and common items

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- Masks are to worn from the hours of 730-10 and 330-530 by staff
- Staff and parents are expected to follow these policy and procedure adjustments

COVID-19 Testing, Suspected COVID-19 Diagnosis and Recovery

- For rapid return of negative COVID-19 test results, you can sign up on the BCCDC website to receive your negative result by text message as soon as it has entered their system. This is faster than calling in for test results
- Children who live with a confirmed COVID-19 case will need to self-isolate at home and cannot return until approved by public health
- Staff, if diagnosed with COVID-19, will be excluded from work and stay home for a minimum of 10 days from the onset of symptoms, until their symptoms improve and they no longer have a fever, and are approved by public health to return
- Childcare ratios are required during operations, and unforeseen circumstances could have an impact on ratio and operating hours
- The centre may close for a period of time if a staff member tests positive for COVID-19
- Fees will not be impacted by closures unless closures are for more than half of the month
- Fees cannot be refunded due to a covid related absence

Pick Up, Drop Off & Visitors

- We ask that parents and guardians and older children who are attending with parents or picking up children wear a mask while on the daycare property, including the play area and inside of the building
- Visitors to the centre are asked to sanitize and wear a mask while inside the centre
- Students will be considered on a case by case basis
- Families may be required to sanitize their hands prior to entry, sign in and send your child to their program, without actual entry into the program
- No more than 2 families can wait inside at any given time, there will be social distance circles on the floor for reminders and space requirements

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Cleaning

- We have implemented a targeted effort to sanitize frequently touched surfaces and areas such as door handles, gate latch, light switches, sign in areas, bathroom, kitchen, phone, water bottle area, stair railings, towel dispensers, washer and dryer, vacuums, laundry baskets, and brooms etc. and stepped up disinfecting for toys, tables and chairs, playground. This will be documented 2x daily by staff. [2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) B.C. public health guidance for schools and childcare programs](#)
- Toys will be cleaned daily and soft toys will be avoided during this time
- Kitchen common items will be wiped down daily
- Staff are required to check off a daily cleaning list, in addition to regular cleaning duties

Program Adjustments

- Sensory items other than sand or water will not be permitted, unless individualized
- There will be as much space as possible between children in a toe to toe fashion during nap time
- Circle time will be maxed out at 12 children
- Staff will social distance with each other when possible
- Outdoor activities (including playgrounds and community outings) will be preferred and we will spend as much time as possible, rain or shine. Please ensure your children have appropriate and extra clothing for the season
- We will be spending an increased amount of time in small group to help improve efforts at social distancing
- We have posted visible signage to indicate policy and procedures
- Cubbies will be staggered if possible
- If families cannot social distance when arriving, they are asked to wait outside/in another room until other families are out of the cubby/sign in area. No more than 2 parents with children inside any program with social distancing.

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- Snack will not be served until pandemic numbers are at a safe level for a considerable amount of time
- Yellow and Blue room programs may combine to suit lower enrolment or staffing issues, however unnecessary mixing will be avoided when possible
- Children will be reminded and taught how to wash hands properly, catch their coughs and sneezes, and why it's important to not touch their faces (and how to do so safely) during this time
- The playground will be locked each night when the centre closes and on weekends to reduce the use of it by the community
- Parents are to sign a health declaration each day that they come into the centre
- Toys will be not be shared between rooms without disinfection
- We will not be accepting toys from home, however donations will still be accepted and must be run by the director first
- Personal items should be labelled to avoid accidental sharing
- Small play areas will have capacity limits posted
- Children under six will be supervised when using hand sanitizer