

CHAPTER TWO: HEALTH AND SAFETY

Approval Date: June 2020 Revision Date: October 2020 Revision Date: February 2021	Policy: PANDEMIC PLANNING COVID-19 – HEALTH AND ILLNESS PROTOCOL
	Policy Number: 2.5.6

Health and Illness Protocol for COVID-19 Response Plan

To manage the risk of spreading illness within a child care centre, Algoma Public Health has set out a comprehensive cleaning and sanitation routine and personal health care practices including but not limited to proper and frequent hand hygiene, removal of sensory tables and toys and furniture that cannot be cleaned and disinfected, and increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting. Algoma Public Health also requires daily screening of all individuals entering the child care setting to ensure the safety of the program.

ALL CHILDREN AND STAFF must be screened **DAILY UPON ARRIVAL** to the child care centre, which *may* include temperature checks. In addition to daily screening, all children will be monitored throughout the day for emerging signs and symptoms of illness.

Parents must keep their child(ren) home from the program if their child has any of the following signs and symptoms:

- If the **child** has any of the following symptoms (subject to change): fever and/or chills (37.8C/100.0F or greater), cough (not related to other known causes or conditions e.g. asthma, reactive airway), shortness of breath (not related to other known causes or conditions), decreased or loss of sense of taste or smell, sore throat, stuffy nose and/or runny nose, headache, nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea, fatigue lethargy, muscle aches or malaise; without other known cause as per Appendices III in Policy 2.5.6 (subject to change).
- Whether a child is excluded from child care is determined by their responses to the **Screening Questions for Child Care Centres – Children** as per Appendices III in Policy 2.5.6 (subject to change) which is from the COVID-19 school and child care screening tool from the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education. The most updated version of this document (subject to change) is available on our website www.childcarealgoma.ca.
- Parents must keep their child home if their child has travelled outside of Canada, Ontario and the Algoma District in the past 14 days, if their child has been identified as a close contact of someone who is confirmed as having COVID-19 by a public health unit (or from the COVID Alert app if they have their own phone), or if their child has been directed by a health provider including a public health official to isolate, has a confirmed case of COVID-19, or if a child(ren) experiences any of the signs and symptoms listed above while at the child care.

CHAPTER TWO: HEALTH AND SAFETY

Approval Date: June 2020 Revision Date: October 2020 Revision Date: February 2021	Policy: PANDEMIC PLANNING COVID-19 – HEALTH AND ILLNESS PROTOCOL
	Policy Number: 2.5.6 (continued)

Staff and/or essential visitors must not attend work or enter a CCA building if they have any of the following symptoms (subject to change):

- Fever and/or chills, cough or barking cough (croup), shortness of breath, sore throat, difficulty swallowing, runny or stuffy/congested, nose pink eye, headache that is unusual or long lasting, digestive issues like nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain, muscle aches that are unusual or long lasting, extreme tiredness that is unusual, falling down often; without other known cause as per Appendices II in Policy 2.5.6 (subject to change). Whether a staff or essential visitor is able to attend work or enter a CCA building is determined by their responses to the COVID-19 Screening tool for essential visitors in schools and child care settings from the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education. The most updated version of this document (subject to change) is available on our website www.childcarealgoma.ca.
- Staff must not attend work if they have travelled outside of Canada, Ontario and the Algoma District in the last 14 days, if in the last 14 days a public health unit identified them as a close contact of someone who currently has COVID-19, if a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit told them they should currently be isolating (staying at home), or if in the last 14 days they have received a COVID Alert exposure notification on their cell phone, or if they have a confirmed case of COVID-19.

If a child(ren) experiences any of the signs and symptoms listed above while at the child care program, staff will contact parents to pick up their child **immediately**. While their child(ren) waits for their parent or designate to arrive, s/he will be separated from the other children. A symptomatic child participating in a child care program should be assessed by the COVID-19 Assessment Centre to determine if they may be exposed to COVID-19. You must make an appointment at an assessment centre; **(705)759-3434 ext. 7152**. Parents/guardians of the child must notify the assessment centre the child was receiving care at a child care centre when they make the appointment. Children can return to child care when the test is confirmed negative and are symptom free for at least 24 hours. Children with symptoms who do not get tested must be excluded from child care for 10 days after the onset of symptoms and be 24 hours symptom free. This exclusion will also apply to children exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19.

Please note if a child or staff is planning to travel or has travelled outside the Canada they **must** isolate for the mandatory 14 days and inform Child Care Algoma of the travel location, and mode of transportation.

Any travel within Canada and Ontario will be at the discretion of Child Care Algoma in consultation with Algoma Public Health if your child will be ineligible to return to their child care space, and if a 14 day self-isolation or a negative COVID-19 test result is required, if the area visited had a known outbreak.

CHAPTER TWO: HEALTH AND SAFETY

Approval Date: June 2020 Revision Date: October 2020 Revision Date: February 2021	Policy: PANDEMIC PLANNING COVID-19 – HEALTH AND ILLNESS PROTOCOL
	Policy Number: 2.5.6 (continued)

To protect the health of all individuals at the child care centre, staff will support the arrival and pickup routine for families. Upon arrival, once a child(ren) has completed active screening and are deemed able to enter the centre, staff will escort the child(ren) to the appropriate program room. Parent(s)/caregiver(s) are discouraged from entering the centre. Pick-up and drop-off of child(ren) will occur outside the child care setting unless it is determined that there is a need for the parent(s)/caregiver(s) to enter the setting.

As a Parent/Guardian responsible for my child(ren)'s child care placement, I agree to the following:

I have read and understood the above information.

I agree to all screening measures.

I agree to exclude ALL of my children from child care services immediately upon observing any of the above signs or symptoms or illness in my child(ren) until Algoma Public Health has determined my child(ren) can return to the program.

CHAPTER TWO: HEALTH AND SAFETY

Approval Date: June 2020 Revision Date: October 2020 Revision Date: February 2021	Policy: PANDEMIC PLANNING COVID-19 – HEALTH AND ILLNESS PROTOCOL
	Policy Number: 2.5.6 (continued)

APPENDICES I

ALL STAFF DAILY

- WASH HANDS WITH SANITIZER
- FILL OUT SURVEILLANCE FORM

YOU MAY NEED TO WEAR A MASK AND EYE PROTECTION – PLEASE REFER TO POLICY

- IF YOU HAVE ANSWERED YES TO ANY SCREENING QUESTIONS PLEASE INFORM YOUR SITE SUPERVISOR – YOU WILL NEED TO GO HOME.

CHAPTER TWO: HEALTH AND SAFETY

Approval Date: June 2020 Revision Date: October 2020 Revision Date: February 2021	Policy: PANDEMIC PLANNING COVID-19 – HEALTH AND ILLNESS PROTOCOL
	Policy Number: 2.5.6 (continued)

APPENDICES II

COVID-19 Screening Tool for Employees and Essential Visitors for Child Care Settings

(Subject to change)

Screening Questions (place an “X” in the appropriate column)

1. **Are you currently experiencing any of these symptoms?** Choose any/all that are new, worsening, and not related to other known causes or medical conditions.

Fever and/or chills

Temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher	Yes	No
--	-----	----

Cough or barking cough (croup)

Continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing, not related to other known causes or conditions (for example, asthma, post-infectious reactive airways)	Yes	No
---	-----	----

Shortness of breath

Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply, not related to other known causes or conditions (for example, asthma)	Yes	No
--	-----	----

Decrease or loss of taste or smell

	Yes	No
--	-----	----

Sore throat

Not related to other known causes or conditions (for example, seasonal allergies, acid reflux)	Yes	No
--	-----	----

Difficulty swallowing

Painful swallowing, not related to other known causes or conditions	Yes	No
---	-----	----

Runny or stuffy/congested nose	Yes	No
Not related to other known causes or conditions (for example, seasonal allergies, being outside in cold weather)		
Pink eye	Yes	No
Conjunctivitis, not related to other known causes or conditions (for example, reoccurring sties)		
Headache that's unusual or long lasting	Yes	No
Not related to other known causes or conditions (for example, tension-type headaches, chronic migraines)		
Digestive issues like nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain	Yes	No
Not related to other known causes or conditions (for example, irritable bowel syndrome, menstrual cramps)		
Muscle aches that are unusual or long lasting	Yes	No
Not related to other known causes or conditions (for example, a sudden injury, fibromyalgia)		
Extreme tiredness that is unusual	Yes	No
Fatigue, lack of energy, not related to other known causes or conditions (for example, depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction)		
Falling down often	Yes	No
For older people		

2. In the last 14 days, have you or anyone you live with travelled outside of Canada, Ontario, and the Algoma District? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. In the last 14 days, has a public health unit identified you as a close contact of someone who currently has COVID-19? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Has a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit told you that you should currently be isolating (staying at home)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
5. In the last 14 days, have you received a COVID Alert exposure notification on your cell phone? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you already went for a test and got a negative result, select “No”.

CHAPTER TWO: HEALTH AND SAFETY

Approval Date: June 2020 Revision Date: October 2020 Revision Date: February 2021	Policy: PANDEMIC PLANNING COVID-19 – HEALTH AND ILLNESS PROTOCOL
	Policy Number: 2.5.6 (continued)

Results of Screening Questions

If you answered “YES” to any of the symptoms (even one) included under question 1:

- Must remain away from the Child Care Centre until;
 - a). They seek COVID-19 testing and have their negative COVID-19 test result; OR
 - b). If the staff member does not get tested, they must remain away from the centre for 10 days; OR
 - c). They consult with their health care provider who assesses the symptoms and provides an alternative diagnosis.

Under all circumstances, they cannot return unless their symptom(s) is improving for at least 24 hours and they do not have a fever without the use of fever reducing medications (e.g., Tylenol)

If you answered “YES” to question 2:

- Staff member must be excluded.
- Staff member and household members must quarantine at home for 14 days from the traveler’s date of arrival back in Sault Ste. Marie.

If you answered “YES” to question 3:

- Staff member must be excluded.
- Staff member and household members must follow instructions provided by Public Health Unit.
- Close contacts must isolate for 14 days from last exposure to COVID-19 case.

If you answered “YES” to question 4:

- Staff member must be excluded.
- Staff member and household members must follow instructions provided by Health Care Provider or Public Health Unit.

If you answered “YES” to question 5:

- Staff member must be excluded.
- Their children and other people they live with can go to child care, work or school but should not leave home for other, non-essential reasons until the person who got the COVID Alert tests negative or consults with their health care provider for an alternative diagnosis.

If you answered “NO” to all questions, you may go to school/child care.

CHAPTER TWO: HEALTH AND SAFETY

Approval Date: June 2020 Revision Date: October 2020 Revision Date: February 2021	Policy: PANDEMIC PLANNING COVID-19 – HEALTH AND ILLNESS PROTOCOL
	Policy Number: 2.5.6 (continued)

APPENDICES III

Screening Questions for Child Care Centres - Children

1. In the last 14 days, have you, your child or anyone you live with travelled outside of Canada, Ontario and the Algoma District?
2. Has a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit directed your child they should currently be isolating (staying at home)?
3. In the last 14 days, has your child been identified as a “Close Contact” of someone who currently has COVID-19?
4. In the last 14 days, have you received a COVID-19 Alert exposure notification on your cell phone?
5. Is your child currently experiencing any of these symptoms that are new or worsening, and not related to other known causes or conditions they already have:
 - Fever and/or chills (temp. of 37.8C/100.0F or greater)
 - Cough or barking cough (Croup)
 - Shortness of breath
 - Decrease or loss of sense of taste or smell.
 - Sore throat or difficulty swallowing
 - Runny or stuffy/congested nose
 - Headache
 - Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea
 - Extreme tiredness or muscle aches/general feeling of being unwell, lack of energy/poor feeding in infants that is unusual or unexplained

If answered “YES” to any of the symptoms (even one)

- Child must remain away from the Child Care Centre until;
 - a). They seek COVID-19 testing and have their negative COVID-19 test result; OR
 - b). If the child does not get tested, they must remain away from the centre for 10 days; OR
 - c). They consult with their health care provider who assesses the symptoms and provides an alternative diagnosis.

Under all circumstances, the child cannot return unless their symptom(s) is improving for at least 24 hours and they do not have a fever without the use of fever reducing medications (e.g., Tylenol)