



## 2019 Novel Coronavirus [COVID-19]

[phd3.idaho.gov/coronavirus](http://phd3.idaho.gov/coronavirus)

### Child Care Information

When feasible, staff members and older children should wear face coverings within the facility. Cloth face coverings should NOT be put on babies and children under age two because of the danger of suffocation.

Encourage childcare staff to take [everyday preventive actions](#) to prevent the spread of respiratory illness.

- [Wash hands](#) often with soap and water. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Remember to supervise young children when they use hand sanitizer to prevent swallowing alcohol.
- [Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.](#)
- [Cover cough and sneezes.](#)
- Cover your mouth and nose with a [cloth face covering](#) when you have to go out in public.
- Cloth face coverings should NOT be put on babies and children under age two because of the danger of suffocation.

#### Reliance on Social Distancing

- Ask parents/guardians to take their child's temperature either before coming to the facility or upon arrival at the facility. Upon their arrival, stand at least 6 feet away from the parent/guardian and child.
- Ask the parent/guardian to confirm that the child does not have fever, shortness of breath or cough.
- Make a visual inspection of the child for signs of illness which could include flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue, or extreme fussiness.
- Cancel or postpone special events such as festivals, holiday events, and special performances.
- Consider whether to alter or halt daily group activities that may promote transmission.
  - Keep each group of children in a separate room.
  - Limit the mixing of children, such as staggering playground times and keeping groups separate for special activities such as art, music, and exercising.
  - If possible, at nap time, ensure that children's naptime mats (or cribs) are spaced out as much as possible, ideally 6 feet apart. Consider placing children head to toe in order to further reduce the potential for viral spread.

*This document was updated 07/29/2020 using information and guidance available to-date and is subject to change per emerging guidance.*



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- Consider staggering arrival and drop off times and/or have child care providers come outside the facility to pick up the children as they arrive. Your plan for curb side drop off and pick up should limit direct contact between parents and staff members and adhere to social distancing recommendations.

### **Employees who are sick:**

Make certain that both employees know not to come to work when sick.

### **Children who are sick:**

- Explain to parents that unless there is a confirmed reason a child is ill they should not come to the Child Care Center
- If a sick child has been isolated in your facility, clean and disinfect surfaces in your isolation room or area after the sick child has gone home.
- Require sick children and staff to stay home.
- Communicate to staff the importance of being vigilant for symptoms and staying in touch with facility management if or when they start to feel sick.
- Establish procedures to ensure children and staff who come to the child care center sick or become sick while at your facility are sent home as soon as possible.
- Keep sick children and staff separate from well children and staff until they can be sent home.
- Sick staff members should not return to work until they have met the [criteria to discontinue home isolation](#).

### **Employees/Children with COVID Symptoms (Being tested or not):**

If COVID-19 is confirmed in a child or staff member:

- Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
- Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the areas.
- Wait up to 24 hours or as long as possible before you clean or disinfect to allow respiratory droplets to settle before cleaning and disinfecting.
- Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms, and common areas.
- If more than 7 days have passed since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
- Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.
- Any child or employee being tested for COVID-19 should not be in the facility and should be isolated at home while waiting test results.



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**Consider alerting your staff and parents of exposed children as soon as possible, but remember to keep it confidential as required by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA).**

The message should include:

- Possible dates of exposure
- Reminder to employees and parents that there is current community spread of COVID-19. Advise them to watch for signs and symptoms which develop in 2-14 days from possible exposure.
- Remind employees and parents how to best protect themselves from COVID-19 and the importance of staying home if they are sick.
- Let your employees and parents know what your business is doing as a result of exposure (e.g. cleaning, closing, etc.)
- Where to find reputable sources and information for COVID-19 (CDC < local Health Departments, [www.coronavirus.idaho.gov](http://www.coronavirus.idaho.gov)).

### **COVID-19 Exposed or Employees that Test Positive:**

- Immediately notify local health officials. These officials will help administrators determine a course of action for their child care programs or schools.
- When an employee notifies you of a positive COVID-19 test and the employee is not already isolated at home, they must be sent home immediately.
- Advise the employee to stay in isolation.
- Ask the employee which coworkers and children they have been in close contact with starting two days before onset of symptoms - *SWDH will contact the center and ask for this information*
- You will likely dismiss students and most staff for 2-5 days. This initial short-term dismissal allows time for the local health officials to gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 situation impacting the school and for custodial staff to clean and disinfect the affected facilities. Work with the local health officials to determine appropriate next steps, including whether an extended dismissal duration is needed to stop or slow further spread of COVID-19.

### **Cleaning and Disinfecting:**

- Facilities should develop a schedule for cleaning and disinfecting
- [Routinely clean, sanitize, and disinfect](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/pdf/Reopening_America_Guidance.pdf) surfaces and objects that are frequently touched, especially toys and games. This may also include cleaning objects/surfaces not ordinarily cleaned daily such as doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops, nap pads, toilet training potties, desks, chairs, cubbies, and playground structures. Use the cleaners typically used at your facility. Guidance is available for the selection of appropriate sanitizer and disinfectants for child care settings. [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/pdf/Reopening\\_America\\_Guidance.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/pdf/Reopening_America_Guidance.pdf)

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- Use all cleaning products according to the directions on the label. For disinfection, most common EPA-registered, fragrance-free household disinfectants should be effective. A list of products that are EPA-approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 is available [hereexternal icon](#). If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for concentration, application method, and contact time for all cleaning and disinfection products.
- If possible, provide EPA-registered disposable wipes to child care providers and other staff members so that commonly used surfaces such as keyboards, desks, and remote controls can be wiped down before use. If wipes are not available, please refer to CDC's guidance on [disinfection for community settings](#).
- All cleaning materials should be kept secure and out of reach of children.
- Cleaning products should not be used near children, and staff should ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using these products to prevent children from inhaling toxic fumes.

### Returning to work:

I think or know I had COVID-19, and I had symptoms

You can be with others after

- At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared **and**
- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **and**
- Symptoms have improved



SERVING ADAMS - CANYON - GEM - OWYHEE - PAYETTE - WASHINGTON COUNTIES

For current COVID-19 information visit <https://phd3.idaho.gov/coronavirus/>. The COVID-19 Hotline is available Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-5:00 PM (208) 455-5411

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