COVID Safety - Family Toolkit

As we continue to navigate the ever-changing landscape of the COVID-19 pandemic we have compiled this toolkit in order to assist our community of families and caregivers in the navigating COVID-19 safety protocol for our care center. We continue to follow CDC and NC DHHS guidelines, work closely with our local health department and communicate updates as they arise. Thank you for the trust and partnership in caring for your child.

Exclusion Chart Before Arriving:

Screen for COVID-19

- **NO FLAGS**
  - Proceed to Child Care

- **EXPOSURE,** NO SYMPTOMS
  - Cannot go to Child Care today.
  - Remain home for 14 days since the date of last exposure.

- **DIAGNOSIS,** NO SYMPTOMS
  - Cannot go to Child Care today.
  - Remain home for 14 days since the date of last exposure.

- **AT LEAST 1 SYMPTOM**
  - Cannot go to Child Care today.
  - If confirmed positive COVID-19 OR person has not been tested remain home for 14 days since the first symptom, no fever for 72 hours (without the use of fever reducing medicine), AND symptom improvement, including coughing and shortness of breath.

  - If negative rapid antigen test: remain home until there is a follow-up negative PCR/molecular test, no fever for 72 hours (without the use of fever reducing medicine), AND they have felt well for 24 hours.

  - If negative PCR/molecular COVID-19 test: remain home until no fever for 72 hours (without the use of fever reducing medicine) AND they have felt well for 24 hours.

  - If they receive an alternate diagnosis from a health care provider, and there health care provider determines no COVID-19 testing is needed, they can return to child care, following normal child care policies, once there is no fever for 72 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) and they have felt well for 24 hours.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19 and should be kept home. The screening flowchart will outline next steps.

- Fever (99.0 or higher)
- Chills
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- New cough
- New loss of taste or smell

*Exposure refers to being within 6 ft. of someone diagnosed with COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more cumulative over a 24-hr period.

**The more narrow listed symptoms reflect the required exclusionary symptoms in order to avoid over-exclusion of people from child care facilities.
During Arrival:

** Cloth Face Coverings are required for all adults and children over the age of 5 on our property regardless of vaccination status.**

Please drop your child off at their designated entrance. See attached map for details.

We ask that all parents be punctual and arrive during the appropriate windows for proper screening and entry daily. This procedure helps us have fewer people gathering in one space and allows for the separation of the two hallways in order to decrease exposure.

- Parents will be asked to attest to the following screening questions using our ProCare parent engagement application
  1. Have you or any of the children you are dropping off been diagnosed with or had close contact (within 6 feet of a Covid positive person for a total of 15 minutes in a 24 hour period) in the last 14 days?
  2. Have you or any of the children you are dropping off had any of the following symptoms since they were last at childcare? Fever of 99+ F; New cough or shortness of breath/difficulty breathing; New loss of taste or smell
  3. Has any health department staff or health care provider been in contact with you or any of the children you are dropping off and advised you or them to quarantine or isolate?
  4. I attest the information I have provided today for myself and the children I am dropping off is turn and accurate. I will record my children's temperature taken today in the comments box below.

During the Day:

Wellness and Temperature Screening

- A designated staff member(s) will greet and screen students one at a time per the exclusion flow chart provided.
- Staff and anyone else entering the school will also undergo daily health screenings including having their temperature taken with a touchless thermometer before entering the building.
- Parents will stay outside the building. If possible, please have a designated, non-high-risk adult attend drop off

CFCs - Cloth Face Covering (masks)

** CFCs are required for all adults and children over the age of 5 on our property regardless of vaccination status.**

- ELP will have some disposable CFCs on-site but we ask that each child is sent to school with several CFCs per school day. We will likely need to refresh them frequently. ELP will return dirty CFCs daily.
- Our team will encourage children ages 3 to 4 years old to wear CFCs while inside the classroom. Please know that teachers cannot force children to wear CFCs, only encourage them to.
- Child care guidelines do not recommend CFCs for children during outdoor time/play, children will not be required
to wear CFCs on the playground. We will encourage children to keep moving and stay distanced as much as possible. If you would like your child to wear a CFC during outside time, please let us know.

- Guidance on CFCs including wearing, selection, and maintenance can be found at the links below
  - [CDC: Cloth Face Covering Guidance](#)
  - [CDC: About Face Coverings](#)

**Daily Routines and Schedule**

**Classroom Cohorts**

In an effort to keep contact low and still provide quality care for our students, classrooms may be podded. The podded classrooms will be self-contained throughout the school day.

There is a possibility that podded classrooms may interact during drop off/pick up, break coverage, and nap time. Please understand that is an effort to both reduce the contact ‘bubble’ and so that in the event of a positive exposure, only the exposed classrooms will be forced to temporarily close.

**Enhanced Disinfectant Schedules**

In addition to our normal stringent cleaning schedule, our facilities team and child care staff are adding need-based cleaning times.

- Every morning our facilities team uses electrostatic machines to disinfect all student areas
- Teachers use the recommended bleach solution and UV sanitizing wands for sanitizing and disinfecting toys, materials, and surfaces throughout the classroom day.
- Mouthed toys are sent to the kitchen for disinfecting using our commercial-grade dishwasher.
- Our nightly cleaning is done by a professional cleaning company, which uses a hospital-grade cleaning solution (Quat-Stat 5) to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff, and families.
- Cleaning of high surface touchpoints is done daily by our facilities staff throughout the entire YWCA building.

**Screening, Testing, and Exposure Protocol**

All staff and visitors, like child care program participants, will be screened before entering the building. Our staff is at a high vaccination percentage. Additionally, all unvaccinated staff will be taking a routine weekly COVID-19 test for additional safety. We will continue to work closely with our Healthcare Consultant and Health Department contact tracing should any staff or participants experience exposure and need to isolate.

Should an exposure impact child care program participants, we will partner with our Healthcare consultants and Health Department contact tracing for appropriate, situation-specific guidance on necessary isolation or quarantine. We ask enrolled families to make safe choices outside of child care in an effort to keep our community ‘bubble’ safe.
RESOURCES:

Sources in Order to Stay Informed

- North Carolina DHHS: [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)
- North Carolina Governor's Office: [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)
- Centers for Disease Control: [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)
- Vaccination Information:
  - [CDC: COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
  - [NC DHHS: Vaccine Info and Site Locator](#)

Input and Feedback

Please reach out to us at [elp@ywcaofasheville.org](mailto:elp@ywcaofasheville.org) with any ideas, suggestions, and resources so that we can better serve you, your family, and our community.

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Childcare Entrance Map

**Entrance A:** Full day, Early Learning Program, Rooms 1-6

**Entrance B:** Hourly, Part-Time, Empowerment Childcare (ECC Room 1: ages 2 1/2-and up)

**Entrance C:** Hourly, Part-Time, Empowerment Childcare (ECC Room 2: ages 6 weeks-2 yr olds)

**Entrance D:** Full day, Early Learning Program, Rooms 7-10

Front Door

You are here