

STAY AND PLAY PROCEDURAL RESPONSE TO COVID-19

STAY AND PLAY REOPENING:

These are policies and procedures to be put in place to protect the health and safety of children in care while maintaining a safe environment for child care employees and families. Through implementation of these strategies our intent is to mitigate the further spread of COVID-19/any pandemic illness.

We will work to keep parents informed of new procedures and expectations.

TRANSMISSION AND SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19: (FROM CDC & OCDEL)

COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. It is thought that the virus may spread to hands from a contaminated surface and then to the nose or mouth, causing infection. Therefore, prevention practices and environmental cleaning and disinfection are important principles that we will cover below.

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

STAY and PLAY PRACTICES, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES:

(adapted from guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH))

All guidance below is strongly recommended in order to adhere to guidelines published by the CDC and DOH.

Drop-off/Arrival Procedures

STAY & PLAY WILL:

- Post signage in drop-off/arrival area to remind staff and children to keep six feet of distance whenever feasible.
- Stagger arrival and drop off times and plan to limit direct contact with parents as much as possible. Parents will be asked to leave child at the door with staff. Staff will escort child to their classroom.
- Designate and communicate a primary entrance for all families to use for Drop-off and Pick-up. (*currently the handicap entrance under the glass bridge closest to Beaver Ave.*)
- Encourage the same parent, or designated person, should drop off and pick up the child every day. Ask that all adults wear masks for drop-off and Pick-up. If possible,

individuals with serious underlying medical conditions should not pick up children because they are more at risk.

- Take the temperature of both the child and person dropping-off. If a temperature of either the child or the person dropping the child off is over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, Stay and Play staff will review our screening policy with them and deny admittance to that family per the guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH)
- Record child's admittance (or denial of admittance) and who brought the child to Stay and Play that day.
- Offer a hand hygiene station at the entrance of the facility, so that children, staff, and parents can clean their hands before they enter. If a sink with soap and water is not available, we will provide hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Keep hand sanitizer out of children's reach and supervise use. If possible, place Drop-off stations outside, and provide sanitary wipes for cleaning items as needed.
- Designate a staff person to be the drop off/pick up volunteer to walk all children to their classroom, and at the end of the day, walk all children back to their parents for dismissal/pick-up.

Screening Procedures:

The best way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is to prevent it from getting inside the facility.

Child care providers will:

- Encourage parents to be on the alert for signs of illness in their children and to keep them home when they are sick.
- Conduct a daily health screening of any person entering the building, including children, staff, family members, and other visitors to identify symptoms, diagnosis, or exposure to COVID-19. (*See attached Daily Health Screening Method)
- Not allow anyone, including staff and children, to enter the child care facility if:
 - They or anyone they are with for Drop-Off have a fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or above, or other signs of illness.
 - They have tested positive for or are showing COVID-19 symptoms.
 - They have recently had *potential exposure* with a person with COVID-19.
 - A *potential exposure* means being in a household or having close contact within 6 feet of an individual with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case for at least 15 minutes during the case's infectious period.
 - Persons with COVID-19 are considered infectious from 2 days before onset of symptom until the end of isolation (discussed below in "Discontinuing at home isolation").
- Continue to monitor staff and child health throughout the day.
- Immediately isolate a child or staff member that develops fever, chills, shortness of breath, new cough, or new loss of taste or smell and send them and any family members home as soon as possible.
- While waiting for a sick child to be picked up, have a caregiver stay with the child in a place isolated from others. If the child has symptoms of COVID-19, the caregiver should remain as far away as safely possible from the child (preferably at least 6 feet) while maintaining supervision. The caregiver should wear a cloth face covering. If the child is over the age of 2 and can tolerate a face covering, the child should also wear a cloth face covering.

Routine Disinfecting/Sanitization Procedures:

Stay and Play will post signs in highly visible locations (e.g., facility doors, lobby, restrooms) that promote everyday protective measures and describe how to stop the spread of COVID-19 such as by properly washing hands and properly wearing a cloth face covering.

Intensified Cleaning and Disinfection Efforts:

- Stay and Play will develop a schedule for cleaning and disinfecting.
- Stay and Play will routinely clean, sanitize, and disinfect 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, toilets, tables, chairs, cubbies, and Big Room equipment.
- Stay and Play will use a disinfectant for cleaning.
- If surfaces are dirty, they will be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- All cleaning materials must be kept secure and out of reach of children per regulations.
- Cleaning products will not be used close to children, and staff will ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using these products to prevent children from inhaling toxic fumes.

Cleaning and Sanitizing Toys:

- Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized will not be used – except for 1x use for items for each child (nature like sticks, etc.) which can be discarded after use.
- Toys that children have placed in their mouths or that are otherwise contaminated by body secretions or excretions will be set aside until they are cleaned by hand by staff or run through the dishwasher. They will be cleaned with water and detergent, rinsed thoroughly, sanitized with an EPA-registered disinfectant (per instructions for that specific disinfectant) and air-dried. OR they may also be cleaned in a mechanical dishwasher.
- Machine washable cloth toys will be used by one individual at a time or will not be used at all. These toys will be laundered before being used by another child.
- Toys will not be shared with other groups unless they are washed and sanitized properly before being moved from one group to the other.
- Toys that need to be cleaned will be set aside in a separate container marked for “soiled toys.” This container will be kept out of reach from children. Staff will Wash with soapy water, as it is the ideal method for cleaning. Staff will try to have enough toys available so that the toys can be rotated through cleanings.

Social Distancing Practices:

- As much as possible, child care classes will include the same group of children each day.
- As much as possible, the same staff will remain with the same group each day.
- We will keep each group of children in a separate room.
- We will limit the mixing of children by keeping groups/classes separate for special activities such as music and gross motor play.
- Stay and Play will not host special events such as festivals, holiday events, and special performances during this time.
- We will plan activities that allow for children to spread out throughout the classroom as much as possible to minimize close contact play for extended periods.
- We will encourage parental participation that does not involve on site involvement in the classroom.

Face Masks: (As of 07/08/20)

Child care staff must wear face coverings indoors; they must also wear face coverings outside if unable to maintain the 6-foot social distance, unless a medical reason prevents them from wearing a face covering. This includes anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.

Children 2 years old and older are required to wear a face covering as described in the Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Order for Universal Face Coverings, except as noted below.

If a child is outdoors and able to consistently maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet from individuals who are not a part of their household, they do not need to wear a mask.

If a parent, guardian, or responsible person has been unable to place a face covering safely on the child's face, they should not do so.

If a child 2 years old or older is unable to remove a face covering without assistance, the child is not required to wear one.

The Department of Health recognizes that getting younger children to be comfortable wearing face coverings and to keep them on may create some difficulties. Under these circumstances, Stay and Play child care staff may consider prioritizing the wearing of face coverings to times when it is difficult for the child to maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet from others who are not a part of their household (e.g., during transitions between rooms, or when standing in line). Stay and Play asks that parents ensure proper face covering size and fit of their child's mask. *Stay and Play will provide children with frequent reminders and education on the importance and proper wearing of cloth face coverings to help them build their tolerance for wearing them as well as understand the importance of their use.*

Face coverings will not be placed on:

- Anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance;
- Children younger than 2 years of age
- Anyone who cannot tolerate a cloth face covering due to developmental, medical or behavioral reasons.

The following pertains to all child care staff and children at our child care facility.

For Confirmed Positive COVID-19 cases:

- A child being tested for COVID-19 may not return to Stay and Play until results are back. If confirmed positive, Stay and Play will follow the “**Discontinuing at home isolation**” guidance below for timelines on returning the child to the childcare setting.
- The facility will close for a period of 48 hours following a confirmed positive COVID-19 case so that the facility can be cleaned and disinfected properly.
- The Administration will inform parents of enrolled children when there is a suspected outbreak of a communicable disease or an outbreak of an unusual illness that represents a public health emergency in the opinion of the Department of Health as per 55 Pa. Code §3270.136(b), §3280.136(b), and §3290.136(b).

*An outbreak is defined as a single positive COVID-19 case.

Stay and Play is required to report positive COVID-19 cases to the Department of Health (DOH) as per 55 Pa. Code §3270.136(d), §3280.136(d), and §3290.136(d). We must also report positive COVID-19 cases to the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS).

- Stay and Play will use a direct communication (in person or by phone) to inform child care staff of positive COVID-19 cases.

Exposure to a person who tests positive for COVID-19:

Exposure is defined as being within 6 feet of the individual who tests positive for COVID-19 for a period of 15 minutes or more. It also means coming into direct contact with droplets from a COVID-19 positive individual. Persons who test positive are considered infectious 48 hours before the onset of symptoms. Persons testing positive but do not have symptoms are considered infectious 2 days after exposure (if known) or starting 2 days before test date (if exposure is unknown).

If a staff person, household member, or a child is exposed to an individual who tests positive for COVID- 19:

- They will NOT be permitted to enter Stay and Play until meeting requirements laid out in “Discontinuing at home isolation” below.
- **It is strongly recommended and highly encouraged** that they self-quarantine for a period of 14 days based on the CDC guidance.
- If a child becomes ill at Stay and Play, the administration will notify the child’s parent as soon as possible.
- The Stay and Play administration will inform parents of enrolled children when there is a suspected outbreak of a communicable disease or an outbreak of an unusual illness that represents a public health emergency in the opinion of the DOH as per 55 Pa. Code §3270.136(b), §3280.136(b), and §3290.136(b).
- The facility must report when a staff person, child, or household member is exposed to a positive COVID-19 case to the DHS and DOH.
- The Stay and Play administration will inform child care staff of possible exposure to a positive COVID-19 case in person or by phone.

DISCONTINUING AT HOME ISOLATION:

There are different strategies for discontinuing home isolation. Options include a symptom based (i.e., time-since-illness-onset and time-since-recovery strategy) or test based strategy. Stay and Play will work with families to utilize the strategy that is best for them and the facility and that maintains the health and safety of children in care.

1). Symptom-Based Strategy

Individuals with COVID-19 who *have* symptoms and were *directed* by a medical professional to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation and return to Stay and Play under the following conditions:

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed *since recovery* defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); **and**
- At least 10 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared*.

2). Test-Based Strategy

Individuals with COVID-19 who have symptoms and were directed by a medical professional to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation and return to Stay and Play under the following conditions:

- Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
- Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath), **and**
- Negative COVID-19 test results from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected 24 hours or more apart (total of two negative specimens).

For Persons Who Tested Positive but have NOT had COVID-19 Symptoms in Home Isolation:

1). Time-Based Strategy

Persons with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 who have not had any symptoms and were directed by a medical professional to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation and return to Stay and Play under the following conditions:

- At least 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test.

***If they develop symptoms, then the symptom-based or test-based strategy above should be used.**

2). Test-Based Strategy

Persons with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 who have not had any symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation and return to Stay and Play under the following conditions:

- Negative COVID-19 results from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected 24 hours or more apart (total of two negative specimens).

The symptom-based, time-based, and test-based strategies may result in different timeframes for discontinuation of isolation post-recovery. Any individual who becomes ill should contact their medical provider for advice or testing. For any individual who has been exposed to COVID-19 as described above, or who tests positive for COVID-19, follow the information outlined above.

REPORTING:

Stay and Play is required to report positive COVID-19 cases to the DOH as per 55 Pa. Code §3270.136(d), §3280.136(d), and §3290.136(d).

To report confirmed positive cases of COVID-19, please contact DOH at 1-877-PA-HEALTH or 1-877-724-3258.

And it is required that this information be reported immediately to our Certification Representative at the DHS or the appropriate Regional Office.

In all instances when reporting to DHS, Stay and Play will provide:

- The name of the facility
- The address of the facility including the county
- The number of cases
- If the positive case is a staff person, child, or family member (or someone who lives with the family).

For questions regarding COVID-19, isolation, and quarantine, please contact DOH at 1-877-PA-HEALTH.