



COVID-19 POLICY
Home Child Care

Policies and Procedures

Policy Title: Covid-19 Enhanced Cleaning and Sanitization in Caregiver Homes	Revision Date: November 27, 2020
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Authority: Manager, Home Child Care
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Government of Ontario – Ministry of Education

Policy Statement: This policy sets out the process for enhanced cleaning and sanitization that will be followed by a Caregiver who has an open home during Covid-19.

Procedure:

Home child care premises should be cleaned daily. In addition, frequently touched surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected twice daily at a minimum, however, more frequent cleaning and disinfection may be necessary, depending on the frequency of use and extent of soilage.

Use an enhanced cleaner/ disinfectant for outbreaks (one that states it kills viruses) on all high touch surfaces. Follow directions and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements of the manufacturer. If you wish to use a homemade disinfectant Health Canada recommends 4 teaspoons bleach to 4 cups of water for Covid-19. Be sure to prepare the solution fresh, when you are intending to use it, and only dilute bleach in water (and not with additional chemicals).

Disinfectants, household cleaners, and bleach are meant to be used to clean surfaces. **Never use these products on the skin or internally** as this could cause serious harm.

For more information, click on links below:

[Overview of Hand Sanitizer/Disinfectant/Surface Cleaners Covid-19](#)

[List of Disinfectants with Evidence for Use Against Covid-19](#)

Documentation of cleaning and sanitizing is recorded in the Caregiver's daily log book.

Document Number: 3335383

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Cleaning and sanitization procedures should include:

Bathroom and Changing Areas:

High touch surfaces include:

- Sinks, taps, faucets, counter areas, toilet/handle & surrounding area, drawers, door knobs, step stools, light switches, dispensers, etc.
- Garbage can/dirty diaper containers to include emptying
- Diaper changing pads

Nap and Sleep Areas:

- All cots/cribs/mats/playpens must be disinfected after each use.
- Linens must be laundered between children.
- Remove linens, pillows not in use.

High touch surfaces include:

- beds, bedside table, cots/cribs/mats/playpens, light switches, door knobs, electronics, etc.

Entrance/Play/Craft Areas:

High touch surfaces include:

- door knobs both inside and out, light switches, hand rails, chairs and tabletops, safety gates, cubbies, toy shelves, bins, etc.
- electronics: TV remotes, game systems, headsets, cell phones, iPads, etc.
- toys: remove toys that cannot be easily cleaned and disinfected, limit the number of toys available, disinfect after use by each child. (i.e. riding toys, game pieces, blocks, puzzles, toys mouthed by young children, etc.)
- consider using a separate bucket in the play areas for gathering toys that require cleaning

Kitchen and Eating Areas:

High touch surfaces to include:

- highchairs, booster seats, chairs, tables, light switches, food preparation area, counters, sinks/taps, fridge handles, cupboard door knobs, safety gates, etc.

Outdoor Play Area:

High touch surfaces to include:

- outdoor furniture that may be used by children in care (e.g. tables, chairs)
- climbing equipment, slides, riding toys, trampoline, outdoor toys, balls, etc.
- individual containers used for sensory materials (e.g. playdough, water and sand)
- materials used for sensory play (e.g. buckets, shovels, playdough tools, etc.)
- containers used for water play need to be emptied each day after use

Caregiver Vehicle (if used for transporting children in care):

High touch surfaces to include:

- door handles, window switches, seat belts, car seats/booster seats, steering wheel, gear shift

Additional Resources:

COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening Tool:

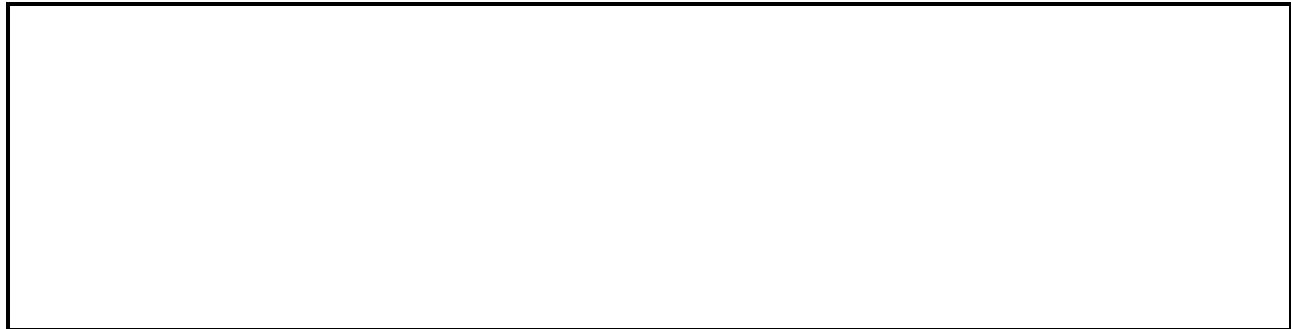
<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Click [here](#) for testing sites located in Waterloo Region

[Covid-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#)

To access additional resources about licensed child care operations during Covid-19 follow the link below:

https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/health-and-wellness/coronavirus-resources-for-schools-and-child-care-centres.aspx?_mid_=31117



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