



COVID-19 POLICY Home Child Care

Policies and Procedures

Policy Title:	Revision Date:
Covid-19 Management of Cases and Outbreaks in Home Child Care Settings	June, 2021

**Authority: Manager, Home Child Care
Public Health, Region of Waterloo
Government of Ontario – Ministry of Education**

Policy Statement: This policy outlines the management of cases of symptomatic/asymptomatic children in care, Caregivers, residents in the home, high-risk contacts and their household members.

Symptomatic Child in Care/Caregiver/Resident in the Home with KNOWN exposure to a case of COVID-19 or travel in the past 14 days:

Isolation/monitoring recommendation:

- The symptomatic individual must self-isolate and should be tested
- Household contacts are required to self-isolate while waiting for the test results of the symptomatic individual

If tested:

- If the test result is **positive**, Public Health will provide further guidance for self-isolation and return to home child care
- If the test result is **negative**, return to the home child care premise can occur after 14 days of isolation from their last exposure or return from travel and when symptoms are resolved for at least 24 hours. A negative test result does not change the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days from the exposure or travel. **Note:** Mild symptoms known to persist in young children (e.g., runny nose) may be ongoing at time of return to home child care if other symptoms have been resolved and there is a negative test
- Asymptomatic household members can return to the home child care premise after the symptomatic Child/Caregiver/Resident receives a negative result and should self-monitor, as long as they themselves did not travel or have close contact with a confirmed case requiring continued self-isolation

Document Number: 3415717

Document Name: Covid-19 Management of Cases and Outbreaks in Home Child Care Settings

Document Number: 3415717

Document Name: Covid-19 Management of Cases and Outbreaks in Home Child Care Settings

If not tested:

- The Child/Caregiver/Resident and all household members should self-isolate for 14 days from symptom onset or from their last exposure/travel, whichever is longest.
- The Child/Caregiver/Resident (and their household contacts) may attend the home child care premise after the 14-day isolation period provided symptoms are resolved for at least 24 hours. **Note:** Mild symptoms known to persist in young children (e.g., runny nose) may be ongoing at time of return to home child care if other symptoms have been resolved and there is a negative test.

Symptomatic Child in Care/Caregiver/Resident with NO KNOWN exposure to a case of COVID-19 and has not travelled in the past 14 days:

Isolation / monitoring recommendation:

- The Child/Caregiver/Resident should be tested and must self-isolate while waiting for results
- Household contacts should self-monitor while awaiting the test result of the symptomatic individual. Siblings who are not symptomatic may attend the home child care premise

If tested:

- If the test result is **positive**, Public Health will provide further guidance for self-isolation and return to home child care. The Region of Waterloo will inform parents by phone and/or email of any confirmed COVID cases.
- If the test result is **negative**, return to the home child care premise can occur when symptoms are resolved for at least 24 hours. **Note:** Mild symptoms known to persist in young children (e.g., runny nose) may be ongoing at time of return to child care if other symptoms have been resolved and there is a negative test.

If not tested:

- If there is a **KNOWN ALTERNATIVE DIAGNOSIS provided by a health care provider**, return to the home child care premise can occur when symptoms are resolved for at least 24 hours. Household contacts should self-monitor.

- If there is **NO KNOWN ALTERNATIVE DIAGNOSIS** provided by a health care provider, return to the home child care premise can occur 14 days after symptom onset provided symptoms are resolved for at least 24 hours. Household contacts should self-monitor.

COVID-19 outbreak in a home child care premise:

- The Ministry of Education has defined a home child care premise outbreak as one or more lab-confirmed COVID-19 case in a child, Caregiver or Resident in the Home in a home child care premise.
- When an outbreak is declared, Public Health will follow the process as outlined above for individual cases and make recommendations regarding the potential need for full or partial child care dismissal based on the scope of the outbreak
- Public Health will conduct an on-site investigation as part of the outbreak investigation and advise additional outbreak measures, where necessary.

Document Number: 3415717

Document Name: Covid-19 Management of Cases and Outbreaks in Home Child Care Settings

Document Number: 3415717

Document Name: Covid-19 Management of Cases and Outbreaks in Home Child Care Settings