

## **Identifying and Handling Sick, Symptomatic, and Exposed Student**

Staff must actively visually monitor students throughout the day for symptoms of any kind, including fever, cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting, abdominal pain, and unexplained rash. Children who appear ill or are exhibiting signs of illness must be separated from the larger group and isolated until able to leave the program. The identified isolation area is located in \_\_\_\_\_ (*identified area which should have a closed door or solid barrier*).

The Program Director or Nurse will immediately contact parents to pick up the symptomatic child from school.

For a child suspected of having a fever, a non-contact or temporal thermometer must be used to check the child's temperature.

If a child appears to have severe symptoms, call emergency services immediately. Notify the transfer team or medical facility if the student is suspected of having COVID-19. Severe symptoms include the following:

- Extreme difficulty breathing (i.e. not being able to speak without gasping for air)
- Bluish lips or face
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- Severe persistent dizziness or lightheadedness
- New confusions or inability to rouse a child
- New seizures or seizures that won't stop.

### **Isolation and Discharge**

Isolated children must be supervised at all times while in the isolation area. Others must not enter the isolation room/space without PPE appropriate to the care setting.

Post the contact information for the local board of health in the city or town in which the program is located.

Ensure masks and other cloth face coverings are available for use by children who become symptomatic.

Designate a separate exit from the exit used to regularly exit for those being discharged due to suspected infection.

A private or separate bathroom must be made available for use by sick students only.

### **If a Child Becomes Symptomatic**

Immediately isolate the child from other students and minimize exposure to staff.

Whenever possible, cover child's nose and mouths with mask or cloth face covering.

Contact the child's parents and have the child picked up as soon as possible.

### **If a Student Contracts COVID-19**

Sick students who are COVID-19 positive or symptomatic and presumed to have COVID-19 must not return to school until they have met the criteria for discontinuing home isolation and tests negative for COVID-19.

Determine the date of symptom onset for the student. Determine if the child attended the program while symptomatic or during the two days before the symptoms began. Identify what days the child attended during that time. Determine who had close contact with the child at the program during those days, staff and other students.

### **Notifying Required Parties**

In the event a program experiences an exposure, program must notify the following parties:

- Employees and families about the exposure but maintain confidentiality
- Local Board of Health if a child is COVID-19 positive

## **Self-Isolating Following Exposure or Potential Exposure**

In the event that a student is exposed to a sick or symptomatic person, the following protocols must be followed:

(1) The child must not be permitted to enter the program space and must be sent home. Exposed individuals must be directed to stay home for at least 14 days after the last day of contact with the person who is sick. The program must consult the local board of health for guidance on quarantine for other children and staff and what additional precautions will be needed to ensure the program space is safe for continued childcare services.

(2) If an exposed child subsequently tests positive or their doctor says they have confirmed or probable COVID-19, they must be directed to stay home for a minimum of 10 days from the 1st day of symptoms appearing AND be fever-free for 72 hours without fever reducing medications AND experience significant improvements in symptoms. Release from isolation is under the jurisdiction of the local board of health where the individual resides.

(3) If a child's household member tests positive for COVID-19, the child must self-quarantine for 14 days after the last time they could have been exposed.

## **If an Exposed Child Remains Asymptomatic and/or Tests Negative for COVID-19**

If the exposed individual remains asymptomatic and/or tests negative for COVID-19, they must remain in quarantine and continue to monitor for the full 14 days.