



COVID-19 Day Care Resource

The Next Three Seconds Protects Your Life, Your Loved Ones, Your Livelihood®

The N3L3 philosophy:

our approach to protecting workers from fatal and life-changing events.

Eastern Alliance is here to help. To learn more about Eastern's N3L3 program and access other safety resources, sign in and visit the Safety Tools on www.easternalliance.com, or contact your Risk Management Consultant for assistance

1.855.533.3444

Eastern Alliance continues to actively monitor the global COVID-19 situation and implement best practices to promote health and safety. We are dedicated to helping our valued policyholders effectively manage their risks as they adapt to changing work environments.

No matter the level of transmission in a community, every child care program should have a plan in place to protect staff, children, and their families from the spread of COVID-19 virus. This resource includes best practices and information for child care services dealing with COVID-19 exposures, along with the suggestions that the CDC has posted.

COVID-19 Day Care Best Practices

- Be sure that employees are aware of the signs and symptoms of COVID-19: fever, cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, muscle/body aches, vomiting or diarrhea, or new loss of taste and smell. The CDC has stated that children may or may not have any symptoms when infected with the virus. Even though the children may not show any symptoms, they can be carriers of the virus and can infect your staff.
- Encourage day care staff members to protect their personal health at all times with the use of protective facemasks, social distancing, and intensive handwashing.
- Screen children, parents, and employees outside of the facility. Consider allowing only the child to enter the facility to reduce additional exposure to the employees. The screening should include temporal thermometers, and an evaluation to determine if symptoms of COVID-19 are present.
- In addition to evaluating physical symptoms, screeners should advise parents that if the child has been exposed to anyone who has tested positive, or shows signs and symptoms for COVID-19, they should not bring their child to the facility.
- Employees completing screening should wear an appropriate protective facemask (N95 is preferable for airborne particulates, surgical masks will help block large-particle droplets, splashes, sprays, or splatter that may contain germs (viruses and bacteria), keeping it from reaching your mouth and nose), disposable gloves and utilize hand sanitizer before and after each screening. Employees that are being screened must wear a face covering throughout the screening process until instructed to remove for screening.
- Parents should check their children in and out of the facility through a single entrance. This entrance should be blocked for parents to pass any further than the checkout station. Should an adult be carrying any type of virus, this will help minimize the spread to a larger group.
- Many daycares use a computer check-in system where parents sign on to the computer at the front desk to check their child in and out. In light of this coronavirus, it is recommended this process is temporarily altered to prevent the spread. Consider ways to minimize multiple touches by having employees sign children in or out of the facilities, or identify ways to sanitize the equipment and the hands before/after each use.



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- Mandate proper handwashing and/or the use of hand sanitizer after each physical interaction with a child, another adult or high touch areas (desks, tables, diaper changing stations, countertops, kitchen areas, electronics/cell phones, light switches, toys, toilets, faucets, doorknobs, etc.).
- Per CDC guidelines, proper handwashing should include: Wet hands with clean running water, apply soap, lather all sides of hands, between fingers, and under your fingernails, scrub hands for at least 20 seconds, rinse hands under clean running water, then dry hands using a clean towel or air dry hands.
- Use hand sanitizer when hand washing is not possible. Be sure to use an alcohol based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. To use hand sanitizers, apply the gel product to the palm of one hand, rub hands together, rub the gel all over the surfaces of your hands and fingers until hands are dry. This should take about 20 seconds.
- Toys that children have placed in their mouths or that are otherwise contaminated by body secretions or excretions should be set aside until they are cleaned by hand by a person wearing gloves. Clean with water and detergent, rinse, sanitize with an EPA-registered disinfectant, rinse again, and air-dry. You may also clean in a mechanical dishwasher. Be mindful of items more likely to be placed in a child's mouth, like play food, dishes, and utensils.
- Encourage staff to stay at home if they feel like they have symptoms of COVID-19. Per CDC guidelines, "Sick staff members should not return to work until they have met criteria to discontinue home isolation" which can be found on their website.
- Develop plans on how to mitigate staffing shortages. Consider contracting services or reach out to substitutes to determine their anticipated availability if regular staff members need to stay home if they or their family members are sick.
- Create an emergency plan in case of a possible outbreak in your community. Educate and train day care staff members on how to execute the emergency plan

For additional information and guidance, please visit:

Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html>

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

www.osha.gov

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIH)

www.niaid.nih.gov

https://nchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/Portals/0/documents/pdf/C/center_appendix_c.pdf