



COVID-19 OUTBREAK TOOLKIT FOR DAYCARES AND EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION CENTERS

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Introduction

The Kane County Health Department (KCHD) is dedicated to working with Kane County daycares and early care and education centers to prioritize in-person learning and promote COVID-19 mitigation strategies. KCHD strongly supports the CDC, DCFS and IDPH guidance for daycares.

[CDC COVID-19 Guidance for Operating Early Care and Education/Child Care Programs](#)
[DCFS Restore Illinois Licensed Daycare Guidance](#)
[IDPH Daycare Guidance](#)

We have developed the COVID-19 Outbreak Toolkit for daycares and early care and education centers in an effort to assist personnel in preventing, identifying, and reporting potential COVID-19 outbreaks.

Outbreak Criteria for Daycare and Early Care and Education (ECE) Facilities

An outbreak at a daycare/ECE facility is defined as:

- Two or more individuals who are laboratory positive for COVID-19 by antigen or PCR testing

AND

- Are epidemiologically linked to the outbreak setting,
- Have onsets of illness or positive COVID-19 test (if asymptomatic) within a 14- day period,
- Do not share a household,
- Are not listed as a close contact of each other outside of the outbreak setting,

Strategies for Preventing Outbreaks

1. Ensure staff, parents, and children ages 2 and older wear a mask consistently and correctly while at the facility
2. Encourage vaccination for those eligible
3. Maintain physical distancing and place children in cohorts (i.e. playing, eating, napping)
4. Utilize screening testing
5. Practice proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette
6. Advise ill individuals to get tested and stay home from daycare facility
7. Clean and disinfect toys, surfaces, and commonly touched objects regularly
8. Improve ventilation

Tips for Identifying Potential Outbreaks

1. Review cases regularly
2. Has there been a sudden increase in the number of cases at the daycare facility?
3. Look for links in the cases
 - Same classroom and/or pod
 - Do the cases nap or eat near each other?
 - Do the cases play together?
 - Are there two classrooms with cases that have a shared teacher or assistant who also tested positive?
 - Do the cases ride on the bus together and sit near each other?







Reporting a Potential Daycare Outbreak to the Kane County Health Department

Daycare personnel should promptly report a potential COVID-19 outbreak at:

redcap.link/kaneschoolreport

Please make sure to complete the outbreak line list document included within the RedCap report. The line list is used for reporting to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and for managing the outbreak.

Please see the screen shot of the RedCap Outbreak Reporting form below.

Record ID	9011
Date reported	02-09-2022  Today M-D-Y
Building type <small>* must provide value</small>	Daycare/Child Care 
Are you reporting a potential outbreak for KCHD to review and confirm? <small>* must provide value</small>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No reset
This line list must be used to submit cases that are part of the potential outbreak.	
Attachment:  School COVID line List.xlsx (0.07 MB)	
Please upload your completed line list with cases that are part of the potential outbreak.	 Upload file
Childcare Facilities/Daycare Setting Outbreak Definition:	
Two or more individuals who are laboratory positive for SARS-CoV-2 by antigen or PCR testing	
AND	
Are epidemiologically linked to the outbreak setting.	
Have onsets of illness or positive SARS-CoV-2 test (if asymptomatic) within a 14- day period	
Do not share a household	
Are not listed as a close contact of each other outside of the outbreak setting	

Reporting a Daycare Outbreak to the Kane County Health Department, continued

Once the Kane County Health Department receives the Red Cap Outbreak report, the Outbreak team will review the report and confirm the outbreak. The Outbreak Investigator will provide guidance upon request and will follow up with the point of contact as needed.

The Kane County Health Department will then report the outbreak to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and will monitor the outbreak. The ECE facility's point of contact will receive a RedCap survey, Monday through Friday, via email (see figure below). The daycare staff should ensure the survey is completed each day. The brief survey will ask if any new cases have been identified. New cases should be added to the line list. The line list is continuous and daycare personnel will continue to add additional cases to the line list and upload the updated line list for each new case in the survey throughout the outbreak.

For example, 3 cases are initially reported as part of an outbreak. Two days later, there are two additional cases identified. Those two cases will be added to the original line list and the updated line list, with all 5 cases, will then be uploaded with that day's survey.

Record ID	188
Name of organization	<input type="text"/>
Today's date	<input type="text"/> Today M-D-Y
Are there any additional confirmed cases, persons showing symptoms to report or any other updates to share?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No reset
If you are reporting any confirmed cases, please attach line list here	Upload file
If you have implemented any additional infection control measures today, please note that here.	<input type="text"/> Expand
If you have any concerns or questions for the Kane County Health Department COVID-19 Outbreak team, please note that here.	<input type="text"/> Expand
Form Status	

Outbreak Testing and Testing Resources

Outbreak testing helps to swiftly break the chain of transmission. Those who are infected but aren't showing symptoms can be quickly identified and excluded to prevent further spread. Implementation of outbreak testing should begin as soon as possible from the date the outbreak is identified.

- Testing should continue until the ECE facility has gone two incubation periods, or 28 days, from the most recent case's symptom onset date (or the testing date, if asymptomatic), without identifying any new cases.
- Individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 within the prior 90 days and are currently asymptomatic may be exempted from testing during outbreaks, unless otherwise directed.
- All close contacts should be tested five days after exposure.



Testing Resources

The ECE facility can implement outbreak testing when needed.

A list of free testing sites is available at: dph.illinois.gov/testing

Midwest COVID-19 Testing Coordination Center (MCC) - A partnership between IDPH and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. A minimum of 5 individuals need to be tested in order to receive the service. ECE facilities may register for testing assistance at: testedandprotected.org

Exclusion of Positive Cases

The Kane County Health Department supports the [DCFS Restore Illinois Licensed Day Care Guidance](#).

Staff and children who have presumed or confirmed COVID-19 should stay home, isolate for at least 5 full days, and stay away from other people as much as possible.

People without symptoms can end isolation after 5 full days and return to the ECE program if they are older than age 2 and able to consistently and correctly wear a mask while in the ECE program.

People who once had symptoms can end isolation after 5 full days and return to the ECE program if fever-free, for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, if symptoms have improved and if they are older than age 2 and able to consistently and correctly wear a mask while in the ECE program.

For children and staff who are unable to consistently wear a mask when around others (including all children under 2 years of age) the safest option is to continue to isolate for a full 10 days.

People who are severely ill with COVID-19 (including those who were hospitalized or required intensive care or ventilation support) and people with compromised immune systems might need to isolate at home longer. They may also require testing with a viral test to determine when they can be around others. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends an isolation period of at least 10 and up to 20 days for people who were severely ill with COVID-19 and for people with weakened immune systems. The individual should consult with a healthcare provider about when to end isolation and resume contact with other people.

COUNTING DAYS OF ISOLATION OR QUARANTINE

Day 0 is the first day of symptoms or the last day of exposure to someone with COVID-19, OR for people who do not have symptoms, the specimen collection date of the positive viral test. Example below is for a child with COVID-19 symptoms who is over 2 years of age with symptoms improved by day 5 who can correctly and consistently mask while at daycare.



Exclusion of Close Contacts

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, children and staff who come into close contact with someone with COVID-19 should quarantine based on the following criteria:

	Fully Vaccinated	NOT Fully Vaccinated Defined as children under 5 years of age who aren't yet eligible for vaccination based on age; or staff and children 5 years or older who have not received all recommended COVID-19 vaccines, including any booster dose(s), when eligible.	COVID-19 Positive in Last 90 Days and Recovered
Quarantine	Not necessary if asymptomatic.	If asymptomatic, quarantine at least 5 full days. The individual may return on day 6 if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older than age 2, AND • Able to consistently and correctly wear a mask around others. Quarantine for a full 10 days if unable to consistently and correctly wear a mask around others (including all children under 2 years of age).	Not necessary if asymptomatic.
Testing	Test on day 5 after exposure or immediately if symptoms develop.	Test on day 5 after exposure or immediately if symptoms develop.	N/A
Masking	Mask indoors in public and inside home for 10 days after exposure.	Mask indoors in public and inside home for 10 days after exposure.	Mask indoors in public for 10 days after exposure.
Other Important Information	Monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and isolate immediately if symptoms develop.	Monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and isolate immediately if symptoms develop or test positive and notify day care setting. If a close contact does not develop symptoms of COVID-19 and does not test positive or is not tested, that person can go back into public spaces, including the daycare facility, after the exclusion period. Consult with a healthcare professional for testing recommendations if new symptoms develop.	Monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and isolate immediately if symptoms develop. Consult with a healthcare professional for testing recommendations if new symptoms develop.

Upon return to the ECE facility, children may resume all activities as long as they remain asymptomatic and mask at all times when around others for days 6 through 10 from exposure. This includes dining periods, activities and riding the bus. ECE facilities should ensure that there is a plan for children and staff returning after 5 days to stay masked at all times until day 10. During times in the school day when children or staff members may typically remove masks indoors (e.g. eating, napping, etc.), ECE facilities should have a plan for them to adequately distance from others and ensure they wear their masks when not actively participating in these activities (such as when they are not actively eating).

Additional Mitigation Strategies

Buses

- Assigned seating with seating chart readily available. May need to quarantine all individuals on bus if unable to identify close contacts.
- Household should be seated together.
- Promote masking at all times - while waiting for bus, entry and exit, and during travel.
- Social distancing at queue, during pick up, drop off and travel.
- Keep windows down whenever possible, weather permitting.

Breakfast/Lunch/Snacks

- Encourage outdoor dining when weather permits.
- Maintain 6 feet distance when eating or drinking without a mask (as best as possible).
- Employ alternate location when 6 ft. distance cannot be maintained.
- Assigned seating with seating chart readily available.
- Staggering the seating at the tables, thus allowing more space at the table.
- Lowering student: table ratio with staggering seating.
- Reminder announcement and monitoring: mask as soon as finished eating and sanitize the area used.

Play/Recess

- When outdoors, staff and children generally do not require masking, however in areas of substantial to high transmission, staff and children who are not fully vaccinated should wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated. Those in days 6 through 10 after exposure must continue to mask.
- Universal masking is recommended during indoor physical activity or recess.
- Utilizing a rotating schedule of playground areas and equipment for classes or groups. For example, on Tuesday, classroom A is assigned swings, classroom B is playing on the slide while classroom C is using the merry-go-round.

Hand Hygiene

- Reminder announcement and monitoring: hand hygiene before and after – meals/snacks, outdoor play and bathroom breaks.

Staffing

- Limit the movement of teachers and staff from one room to another.

Send memo to staff and parents instructing them to:

- Stay home if you have symptoms or do not feel well.
- Stay home if a member of the household has symptoms or does not feel well.
- Test within 48 hours of getting symptoms. Free testing sites: www.test-illinois.com

Outbreak Closure

The daycare outbreak will be closed by the Kane County Health Department once the outbreak site has gone two incubation periods, or 28 days, from the most recent case's symptom onset date (or the testing date, if asymptomatic), without identifying any new cases linked to the outbreak.

Additional Resources

If you have questions about the guidelines for mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in your school, reporting cases and more, please visit:

[Kane County Health Department COVID-19 Information for Schools and Daycares](#)

Kane County Health Department Office Hours

Did you know that staff from the Kane County Health Department are available to meet Monday through Friday via Zoom to answer questions about COVID-19 mitigation in schools and daycares? It's easy! Just click on the link below to enter the live video chat.

[Mondays from 10:00 - 11:00 am](#)

[Tuesdays from 1:00 - 2:00 pm](#)

[Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:00 am](#)

[Thursdays from 10:00 - 11:00 am](#)

[Fridays from 10:00 - 11:00 am](#)

Don't Wait, Vaccinate!

COVID-19 vaccines remain the most effective way to control the spread of the virus, and greatly reduce the risk of severe illness, hospitalization and death. The Kane County Health Department KaneVax Hub in Batavia offers COVID-19 and flu vaccines for those aged 5 and up. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, visit:

kanevax.org

Our School Team is available to answer questions via email to: school@co.kane.il.us

When can my child return to daycare?

ISOLATION

If your child has tested positive for COVID-19 or has COVID-19 or flu symptoms:

- Test immediately after symptoms develop
- Stay home for 5 days
- Stay away from other people as much as possible
- Return after 5 days if:
 - older than age 2, and
 - can correctly and consistently wear a mask, and
 - fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved.
- Age 2 or younger, and all children who cannot correctly and consistently mask should isolate for 10 days.



QUARANTINE

If your child has been exposed to someone with COVID-19, has not had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days, and is ineligible or not up-to-date with vaccinations:

- Stay home for 5 days
- Stay away from other people as much as possible
- Test on day 5 or immediately if symptoms develop.
- Return after 5 days if:
 - older than age 2, and
 - can correctly and consistently wear a mask, and
 - fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved.
- Age 2 or younger, and all children who cannot correctly and consistently mask should quarantine for 10 days.
- Children who are up-to-date on vaccines and do not develop symptoms after exposure do not need to quarantine.
- Children who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days and do not have symptoms do not need to quarantine.

COUNTING DAYS OF ISOLATION OR QUARANTINE

Day 0 is the first day of symptoms or the last day of exposure to someone with COVID-19, OR for people who do not have symptoms, the specimen collection date of the positive viral test. Example below is for a child with COVID-19 symptoms who is over 2 years of age with symptoms improved by day 5 who can correctly and consistently mask while at daycare.



SCENARIOS

Scenario 1:

Valerie, age 4, has a fever and sore throat (day 0 is the first day of symptoms). She has gotten better and by day 4, she was fever-free for 24 hours. Even though she feels almost back to normal, she needs to wait until day 6 (5 full days) before she returns to school, if she can wear a mask consistently and correctly.



Scenario 2:

Marco, age 2, has a cough and tested COVID-19 positive (day 0 is the day the test sample was collected). He must stay home for 10 full days, and may return if his symptoms have improved and he has been without a fever for 24 hours.



Scenario 3:

Sadie, age 2, is Marco's classmate. She has no symptoms, but was in class with Marco on his last day of daycare. Because she is a close contact of Marco, she must quarantine for 10 full days, and should get tested for COVID-19 on day 5. If positive, she must isolate for 10 days, with day 0 being the day the test sample was collected. If negative, she may return to daycare after day 10 if she has no symptoms.



¿Cuándo puede mi hijo regresar a la guardería?

AISLAMIENTO

Si su hijo ha dado positivo por COVID-19 o tiene síntomas de COVID-19 o gripe:

- Hacerse la prueba inmediatamente después de que se desarrollen los síntomas
- Quédese en casa durante 5 días
- Manténgase alejado de otras personas tanto como sea posible
- Regrese después de 5 días si:
 - mayor de 2 años, y
 - puede usar una máscara de manera correcta y consistente, y
 - Sin fiebre durante 24 horas sin el uso de medicamentos para reducir la fiebre y otros síntomas han mejorado.
- A los 2 años o menos, y todos los niños que no pueden enmascararse correcta y consistentemente deben aislarse durante 10 días.



CUARENTENA

Si su hijo ha estado expuesto a alguien con COVID-19, no ha confirmado COVID-19 en los últimos 90 días y no es elegible o no está al día con las vacunas:

- Quédese en casa durante 5 días
- Manténgase alejado de otras personas tanto como sea posible
- Pruebe el día 5 o inmediatamente si se desarrollan síntomas.
- Regrese después de 5 días si:
 - mayor de 2 años, y
 - puede usar una máscara de manera correcta y consistente, y
 - sin fiebre durante 24 horas sin el uso de medicamentos para reducir la fiebre y otros síntomas han mejorado.
- A los 2 años o menos, y todos los niños que no pueden enmascararse correcta y consistentemente deben ponerse en cuarentena durante 10 días.
- Los niños que están al día con las vacunas y no desarrollan síntomas después de la exposición no necesitan ponerse en cuarentena.
- Los niños que han dado positivo por COVID19 en los últimos 90 días y no tienen síntomas no necesitan ponerse en cuarentena.

CONTANDO LOS DÍAS DE AISLAMIENTO O CUARENTENA

El día 0 es el primer día de síntomas o el último día de exposición a alguien con COVID-19, O para las personas que no tienen síntomas, la fecha de recolección de la muestra de la prueba viral positiva. El siguiente ejemplo es para un niño con síntomas de COVID-19 que tiene más de 2 años de edad con síntomas mejorados para el día 5 que puede enmascararse de manera correcta y consistente mientras está en la guardería.



ESCENARIOS

Escenario 1:

Valerie, de 4 años, tiene fiebre y dolor de garganta (el día 0 es el primer día de síntomas). Ella ha mejorado y para el día 4, estuvo libre de fiebre durante 24 horas. A pesar de que se siente casi de vuelta a la normalidad, necesita esperar hasta el día 6 (5 días completos) antes de regresar a la escuela, si puede usar una máscara de manera consistente y correcta.



Escenario 2:

Marco, de 2 años, tiene tos y dio positivo en la prueba de COVID-19 (el día 0 es el día en que se recolectó la muestra de prueba). Debe quedarse en casa durante 10 días completos y puede regresar si sus síntomas han mejorado y ha estado sin fiebre durante 24 horas.



Escenario 3:

Sadie, de 2 años, es la compañera de clase de Marco. Ella no tiene síntomas, pero estaba en clase con Marco en su último día de guardería. Debido a que es un contacto cercano de Marco, debe ponerse en cuarentena durante 10 días completos y debe hacerse la prueba de COVID-19 el día 5. Si es positivo, debe aislarse durante 10 días, siendo el día 0 el día en que se recolectó la muestra de prueba. Si es negativo, puede regresar a la guardería después del día 10 si no tiene síntomas.

