



DAYCARE NEWS

February 2, 2022

New DCFS Guidelines for COVID-19 in Daycares

On January 31, 2022, the Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) released updates to the [Restore Illinois Licensed Day Care Guidance and License Exempt School-Age Guidance](#). Due to the ever-changing nature of the pandemic, we can expect the guidelines to change frequently. The Kane County Health Department is your partner in interpreting the guidelines to ensure that your facility is a safe environment for children, families and staff.

The updates also clarify the current guidelines and offer specific guidance on Isolating when sick, and quarantine for close contacts (see pages 16-17).

DCFS IDPH Guidance Updates for Cases - Isolation

Staff and children who have presumed or confirmed COVID-19 should stay home and 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 they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and if symptoms have improved.
- 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.

Day 0 of isolation is the first day of symptoms, OR for people who do not have symptoms, the specimen collection date of the positive viral test.

It is important to note the new guidance for close contacts, summarized in the chart on page 2 of this newsletter.

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- Reporting COVID Outbreaks
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- KCHD Office Hours

Summary of DCFS IDPH Daycare Guidance Updates for Close Contacts (1/31/2022)

	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.

Reporting COVID-19 Cases in Daycares

It is important to inform the Kane County Health Department of COVID-19 cases in your daycare so that we can monitor for outbreaks in the community.

Please promptly report COVID-19 cases using an easy online survey at:

<https://redcap.link/kaneschoolreport>



COVID-19 Testing Resources

The Midwest Coordination Center connects schools and pre-K programs with testing services. Increased screening through this program helps communities rapidly address outbreaks, control the spread of the virus, and keep facilities open. All costs, from collection materials to shipping and testing, are paid for by the Department of Health and Human Services. Visit [testedandprotected.org](https://www.testedandprotected.org) for information.

In addition, IDPH offers free COVID-19 testing to all, regardless of symptoms. Walk-in testing is available at all sites including Aurora at 2450 N. Farnsworth Avenue daily from 8am-4pm. Visit: <https://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/testing.html>

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](https://www.kanevax.org)

Kane County Health Department Office Hours and Resources

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 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](#)

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

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

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