## **COVID-19 INFORMATION**

## GUIDANCE FOR PRESCHOOL, DAY CARE AND OUT OF SCHOOL CARE (CHILD CARE)

Out of School Care Programs	In the instance that a child arrives at the child care program directly after attending school (for which the child was assessed for symptoms by a parent/guardian before attending), program staff should assess the child to see if they are feeling well.
Use of Shared Spaces	<ul> <li>If play structures are to be used by more than one group, programs should increase the frequency of cleaning of shared equipment.</li> <li>Only one program group (e.g., toddler room, preschool room, etc.) at a time should use a licensed outdoor play space. Follow spacing practices when possible.</li> <li>If using a public or school playground, ensure that children engage in hand hygiene before and after play.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Programs that utilize a space that has other after-hours user groups (e.g. programs in churches, community centres) should ensure the space is cleaned before and after using the space. It is recommended that cleaning be done by one person directly before the group enters the space and after it exits the space. A cleaning log should be posted and used to track cleaning.</li> </ul>
Cleaning and Disinfecting	<ul> <li>Programs should engage in frequent, thorough cleaning and disinfecting.</li> <li>Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces, including diapering areas, as per AHS' COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Environmental Cleaning of Public Facilities.</li> <li>Cleaning and disinfecting of toys should be done by:         <ul> <li>Commercial dishwasher</li> <li>Wash with detergent and water;</li> <li>Rinse with clean, warm water;</li> <li>Wipe, spray or immerse for two minutes in an approved disinfectant; and,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>4. Air dry.</li> <li>Increased frequency of cleaning of soft furnishings, permanent carpets and upholstered furniture is recommended.</li> <li>Ensure mouthed toys are immediately put into a designated bucket to be cleaned and disinfected.</li> <li>Soft toys (plush toys and blankets) should be laundered in hot water and dried thoroughly between children.</li> <li>Regarding items that travel with the child from home to the child care centre on a daily or regular basis: <ul> <li>Bringing in non-essential personal items should be discouraged.</li> <li>If coat hooks, lockers or open cubbies are to be used to store personal</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	disinfected in between uses.  Equipment that is required for children's day-to-day use (e.g., mobility or feeding devices, weighted blankets, headphones) should be cleaned and disinfected at drop off and pick up, and should not be used by anyone other than the child.
Overnight Child Care	<ul> <li>Operators providing overnight child care should:</li> <li>Continue to comply with existing public health orders and guidance, as applicable for licensed child care settings.</li> <li>Ensure beds or cots for children from different households are spaced apart (i.e., arranged at a minimum of 2 meters apart where possible).</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Before offering overnight care, operators should consult with Children's Services and Alberta Health Services to assess respiratory illness risk specific to their overnight program and collectively determine if additional measures are needed to minimize risk of transmission during overnight care.</li> </ul>
Other resources	<ul> <li>General information regarding COVID-19 (Government of Alberta)         <ul> <li>www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx</li> </ul> </li> <li>How to hand wash (AHS)         <ul> <li>https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/healthinfo/ipc/if-hp-ipc-flu-handwash-how-to.pdf</li> </ul> </li> <li>How to use alcohol-based hand sanitizer (AHS)         <ul> <li>https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/healthinfo/ipc/if-hp-flu-hand-rub-how-to.pdf</li> </ul> </li> <li>Diapering procedures poster (AHS)         <ul> <li>https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/wf/eph/wf-eph-diapering-procedure-poster.pdf</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Hand washing posters (AHS)         <ul> <li>https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/wf/eph/wf-eh-youd-clean-em.pdf</li> <li>https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/wf/eph/wf-eh-youd-clean-em-2.pdf</li> </ul> </li> <li>Arts and crafts safety (AHS)         <ul> <li>https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/wf/eph/wf-eh-arts-crafts-safety.pdf</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

This document and the guidance within it is subject to change and will be updated as needed.

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