

General Sanitary Precautions and Physical Distancing Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 New Policy for Streetsville Children's Centre

December 1st 2021

Streetsville Children's Centre must be thoroughly cleaned prior to re-opening the site and throughout daily operations in accordance with this policy. Streetsville Children's Centre must strictly maintain routine infection prevention and control practices (refer to the "Preventing and Managing Illnesses in Child Care Centres" guidelines, which are also found in the "Keep on Track" manual), as well as adhere to additional sanitary precautions and physical distancing measures in all aspects of care to prevent the spread of COVID-19 as described in this policy.

It is the expectation that all Staff of Streetsville Children's Centre comply with our Cleaning Policy for Toys along with the policy for Sanitary Practices and Personal Care Routine is followed.

Cleaning Logs for all areas of the classroom including outdoor areas and washrooms are to be kept and signed off.

Streetsville has now implemented a Covid-19 Immunization disclosure policy. All fully vaccinated staff may work with different groups of children. Staff who are not fully vaccinated should be assigned to one group/class. Fully vaccinated individuals are individuals who have completed a Health Canada COVID-19 Vaccine series or received all recommended doses of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Staff meetings will be held virtually or held outdoors. Unless eating/drinking greater than or equal to 2 meters away from others, staff and essential visitors are required to wear medical masks while inside the center along with eye protection.

Streetsville Children's Centre is responsible to communicate the requirements under this policy to any third-party vendors contracted for cleaning services (if applicable). All Streetsville Children's Centre staff are required to follow the requirements for wearing masks (see When to Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in this policy). Staff will be given new masks along with face shield and eye goggles. These items are provided by the Ministry of Education.

PPE Requirement

Staff are required to wear PPE at Streetsville Children's Centre. Staff/Essential Visitors and students Grade 1 and are required to wear masks while attending Streetsville Children's Centre. Students age 2 to Kindergarten is encouraged but not required. All PPE must be approved by Health Canada.

PPH does not recommend child care staff to wear N95 masks. Eye glasses are to protect the top of your head and wrap around eyes.

Staff must wear surgical/procedural masks, gloves and eye protection (face shield, goggles or wrap-around safety glasses) at all times when inside the centre and the following:

1. When cleaning and disinfecting blood or bodily fluids spills if risk of splashing
2. When caring for a sick child
3. Providing direct care (e.g. diapering or feeding)
4. Holding or carrying a child
5. Assisting a child with dressing
6. When serving food in kitchen area

Exceptions to wearing masks and eye protection indoors could include circumstances where individuals such as a supervisor or kitchen staff are alone in separate rooms or during staff meal breaks. The use of masks and eye protection is not required outdoors for adults or children if physical distancing of at least 2 m can be maintained between individuals.

Physical Distancing is to maintained at all times using pool noodles or visual indicators in classrooms and hallways with staff and students.

Updated Mask Requirement for students:

To protect the health of all individuals at the child care setting, all children in grades 1 and above are required to wear a non-medical or cloth mask while inside the child care setting, including the hallways, and outdoors if physical distancing cannot be maintained. Peel Public Health recommends that child care settings consider making masks mandatory for children in kindergarten while inside the child care setting and outdoors if physical distancing cannot be maintained. Children who are 2 years of age up to kindergarten age are encouraged but not required to wear a mask.

Note: If the child care program is located inside a school, child care providers must follow individual school board direction as per the mandatory use of non-medical masks for children. Parents/guardians are responsible for providing their child(ren) with a mask(s). If your child is unable to wear a mask for any reason, please inform the child care staff/LHCC provider. Reasonable exceptions are permitted including those who have trouble breathing, unable to wear a mask for medical reasons or unable to remove mask without assistance. Proof of a mask exemption is not required

Physical activity and masking: While outside children are required not to engage in moderate to vigorous physical activity.

SCC School MASK Policy

It is the policy of Streetsville Children's Centre that students who attend:

- Nursery School 3
- Kindergarten
- Grade Program

Will wear a mask while attending school. This mask will be removed for snack, lunch and nap (if child naps).

- Masks will not worn outside during recess however physical distancing is still required
- Streetsville Children's Centre will have small children's masks onsite to use.
- Medical exception letters are needed to be given for students Grade 1 and up where masks are mandatory
- Children 2 and under are not required to wear a mask
- Students aged 2 to kindergarten is encouraged by the region but not required however this is a school policy. If parents choose to not take part Medical Exception letters are required.

This policy will be continually updated as we receive guidance from the Region of Peel and the Ministry of Education.

PROCEDURES

Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette

Hand hygiene is essential for infection control. Streetsville Children's Centre Staff, parents/guardians/caregivers and children should wash their hands with soap and warm water frequently throughout the day following the steps for proper hand washing. Alcohol-based hand rub or hand sanitizer may also be used when hands are not visibly soiled following the steps for proper use.

Alcohol Based Hand Sanitizer

This is also to be available at drop off and pick up stations and all exits.

Hand sanitizer must only be used on children who are over the age of two and must always be used under staff supervision. Staff must ensure that the product has completely evaporated from the child's hands before allowing the child to continue their activity. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth and avoiding high-touch areas, where possible. Streetsville Children's Centre will increase monitoring of hand washing supplies to ensure all sinks in washrooms, kitchens, and classrooms are well stocked at all times (i.e. soap, paper towels, waste receptacles). Ensure hand sanitizer or alcohol-based hand rub (containing 60%-90% alcohol) is readily accessible in areas where hand washing facilities are not available. However, hand sanitizer dispensers should not be in locations that can be accessed by young children. Avoid trouncing eyes, mouth and high touch areas.

Portable sinks to facilitate hand washing are not permitted unless they are only used on a temporary basis. Permanent hand washing sinks must be installed as soon as possible where needed.

Respiratory Etiquette

All individuals should cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. If a tissue is not available, individuals should cough or sneeze into their upper sleeve or elbow, not their hands. Individuals should wash hands after coughing and sneezing. Individuals should replace damp or contaminated masks and eye protection.

Outdoor Equipment:

All outdoor equipment is to be cleaned between groups and once students re-enter building proper hand hygiene is to occur which will be monitored by staff. Gym and indoor space should only be used for light activity where physical distancing measures and current masking protocols for students can be followed.

With respect to playing with sand in playgrounds and sandboxes, there should be focused attention to reinforcing hand hygiene before and after play, children should not be touching their faces, maintaining physical distancing and proper mask wearing if physical distancing cannot be maintained. Sandboxes should not be used if physical distancing can not be maintained.

Strollers may be used for the Nursery School One and Nursery School Two Classroom. Seats are to be assigned to each child and a shirt barrier is out in between. Once you are back in the school a Superhero will come and clean the strollers by hand and then spray the strollers down to air dry. Strollers are to be kept in the hallway outside of the classroom.

Singing is prohibited indoors to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission but is allowed outdoors (with physical distancing measures in place).

High Contact physical activities' should take in outdoor settings only. Keeping a physical barrier between different groups is recommended to prevent groups from mixing. Groups should not mix indoors or outdoors. Everyone should stay in their groups as much as possible.

Cleaning and Disinfecting:

The 6 steps for cleaning and disinfecting are:

1. Clean with soap and water.
2. Rinse with clean water.
3. Apply the disinfectant according to the manufacturer's instructions on the label.
4. Allow the surface or object to soak in the disinfectant for the required contact time.

Refer to the Disinfection Chart for Child Care Settings in Appendix 1.9a for the required contact times when using household bleach and water. A disinfectant with a Drug Identification Number (DIN) can also be used.

5. Rinse with clean water if required according to manufacturer's instruction on the label or according to the Disinfection Chart when using household bleach and water.

6. Let air dry.

* Mouthed toys must be removed immediately from the classroom and washed and disinfected.

Please refer to new cleaning poster

<https://peelregion.ca/health/infectioncontrol/pdf/cleaning-disinfection-child-care-settings.pdf>

Cleaning with Soap and water removes dirt and germs that can hide and protect germs. Each classroom has been given its own Soap and Water spray bottle to have in their caddy.

Toys that are played with by individual children once finished with are to go in large green bin system outside of the classroom. A superhero will collect toys and bring to Janitors room for a deep clean. Toys will be brought back to you once dried and a sign of CLEAN TOYS will be placed in the bin so you can safely take toys back into your classroom.

Regularly clean and disinfect high touch surface at least twice daily. This will be done by our Superheros on staff.

All Cots and cribs and rest equipment should be labelled and assigned to each child. Cots and cribs will be places to support physical distancing. Blankets and sheets will be stored in cubby areas for the week. Sheets will be washed on classroom washing day and blankets will be sent home on Friday for parents to wash. After each nap, cots and cribs are to be wiped down.

Staff should avoid instances where physical distancing cannot be maintained, especially during periods where PPE is removed during lunch and break times.

Peel Public Health strongly recommends that staff eat lunch alone and/or lunch and break times are staggered to reduce the number of staff gathering in small, enclosed spaces such as a small break room.

Lunch/break rooms must be arranged to follow physical distancing practices. Alter the workplace layout by moving furniture or using visual cues such as tape on the floor to

ensure physical distancing of 2 metres or greater is maintained as much as possible. Keep lunch/breakroom doors and windows open (weather permitting).

Outdoor picnic tables have been set up outside for staff as well as staggered lunch breaks.

Staffing Lunches and Breaks:

Staff should avoid instances where physical distancing cannot be maintained, especially during periods where PPR is removed during lunch and break times.

- Peel Public Health strongly recommends that staff eat lunch alone if possible, preferably outdoors and or lunch and break times are staggered to reduce the number of staff gathering in a small, enclosed spaces such as a small break room.
- It is also recommended that service providers implement sign in out sheets for staff lunch break rooms to assist with contact tracing in the event of an outbreak.
- Lunch break rooms must be arranged to follow physical distancing practices. Alter the workplace layout by moving furniture or using visual cues such as tape on the floor to ensure physical distancing of 2 meters or greater.
- Keep lunch/break room door and windows open
- If outdoor picnic tables are available for staff lunches, ensure they are made of smooth, non absorbent, easily cleanable table covering can be provided over the tables. Ensure tables are spaced to ensure physical distancing is maintained.
- 4 Staff are allowed in the staff room as max capacity.

Cohorts with students and staff

Each group of children should stay together throughout the day and should not mix with other groups

Children whether attending on a full time or part time basis should be included in only one group

For the purpose of offering summer programmes, a cohort is a group of children that stays together for a minimum of one week of consecutive days and does not mix with other cohorts.

Immunocompromised /Medically Fragile:

It is recommend that child care staff who are fully vaccinated support that care giving responsibilities of immunocompromised or medically fragile children.