

COVID-19 Outbreak: Program Reopening **Hand Hygiene Policy and Procedure**

Policy Statement

Cygnets Cooperative Preschool Centre is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for children, families and employees and will take every reasonable precaution to prevent the risk of communicable diseases within our centre.

Purpose

To ensure that all employees are aware of and adhere to the directive established by Huron Perth Public Health, the Ontario Ministry of Health, and Cygnets Cooperative Preschool.

Application

This policy applies to all employees, students, community members and any other persons engaged in business with Cygnets.

Procedures

Disposable Gloves

Gloves must be worn in the following circumstances and disposed after use:

- Administering first aid
- Cleaning up blood and bodily fluids e.g. vomitus spills and disinfecting surfaces
- Rinsing wet clothing or linen
- Contact with broken skin or tissue
- Contact with diarrhea e.g cleaning/disinfecting contaminated surfaces, diaper changing
- Staff must adhere to proper don/doffing of gloves, see video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=17&v=xueBYfEIFEg&feature=emb_logo

Gloves do not replace the need for proper hand hygiene. Hand hygiene shall be performed before applying and after removing gloves. Gloves shall be removed and discarded after each use. To reduce hand irritation related to gloves, they should be worn for as short of time as possible. Gloves must be intact, clean and dry inside and hands should be clean and dry before wearing. Gloves are single use only, and must be task specific.

Hand Washing

Staff must wash their hands with soap and warm water in the following situations:

- Before handling food, drinks and medication
- Before and after administering medication
- Before and after eating

- Before and after diaper check and change
- Before and after toileting
- Before and after contact with bodily fluids
- Before and after using PPE
- Before and after touching theirs or someone else's face
- Before entering and leaving a classroom
- After touching contaminated articles such as toys that have been mouthed or personal care items such as washcloths
- After sneezing, coughing or blowing your nose

If staff cannot access soap and water, hand sanitizer is acceptable.

Children must wash their hands with warm soapy water:

- Before handling food
- Before and after eating
- Before and after toileting, including after a diaper change
- After putting their hands in their mouths, sneezing or coughing or coming in contact with mucous

Perform Hand Hygiene Using Soap and Water by Following These Steps:

1. Remove rings, bracelets and watches
2. Wet hands
3. Apply soap
4. Rub for at least 20 seconds, rubbing between fingers, back of hands, fingertips, undernails
5. Rinse well under running water
6. Dry hands well with paper towel
7. Turn taps off with paper towel

When hands are not visibly dirty, a 70-90% alcohol-based hand sanitizer can be used. Hand sanitizers can only be used on children who are over the age of two and must always be used under adult supervision. Adults must ensure that the product has completely evaporated from the child's hands before allowing the child to continue their activity.

Perform Hand Hygiene Using Hand Sanitizer by Following These Steps:

1. Apply alcohol-based hand sanitizer (70%-90% alcohol content)
2. Rub hands together for at least 15 seconds
3. Work sanitizer between fingers, back of hands, fingertips, and under nails
4. Rub hands until dry

Hand Hygiene Monitoring

To ensure that employees are using proper hand hygiene methods, the Supervisors will review hand hygiene practices on a regular basis and provide feedback to employees as required.

Covering your Cough Procedure

Germs are spread by coughing and/or sneezing. When you cough or sneeze on your hands, your hands carry and spread these germs. These germs include but are not limited to influenza and cold viruses.

Attempt to keep your distance (preferably more than 2 metres) from people who are coughing and sneezing. Follow these steps to stop the spread of germs:

- If you have a tissue, cover your mouth and nose when you cough, sneeze or blow your nose
- Put used tissues in the garbage
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not in your hands
- Clean your hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer (70%-90% alcohol-based) regularly and after using a tissue on yourself or others

Policy and Procedure Review

This policy and procedure will be reviewed and signed off by all employees before commencing employment/unpaid placement at Cygnets Cooperative Preschool and at any time where a change is made.

Created: August 25th, 2020
Reviewed and Updated: October 6th, 2021
Reviewed and Updated: March 22nd, 2022

COVID-19 Outbreak: Program Reopening
Personal Protective Equipment Policy and Procedure

Policy Statement

The health and safety of all employees working in the centre is important and thus, Cygnets Cooperative Preschool will provide all staff working with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

Procedures

Employees are to adhere to proper don/doffing of any mandatory or optional personal protective equipment and practice hand hygiene immediately following the disposal or laundering of any contaminated PPE.

Hand Hygiene

See: Ontario Public Health Video of [Seven Steps to Hand Washing](#)
Also see Hand Hygiene Policy and Procedure Above

Disposable Gloves

Gloves must be worn in the following circumstances and disposed after use:

- Administering first aid
- Cleaning up blood and bodily fluids
- Rinsing wet clothing or linens
- Contact with diarrhea e.g. cleaning/disinfecting contaminated surfaces or diaper changing
- Handling dirty laundry
- Cleaning and disinfecting toys, materials and large surfaces
- Staff must adhere to proper don/doffing of gloves

See: Ontario Public Health's Video of [How to Put on Gloves](#)

1. Perform hand hygiene
2. Put on gloves, taking care not to tear or puncture glove

How to Remove Gloves

See: Ontario Public Health's Video of [How to Remove Gloves](#)

1. Grasp outside edge near the wrist and peel away, rolling the glove inside-out
2. Reach under the second glove and peel away
3. Discard immediately into waste receptacle

4. Perform hand hygiene

Masks

Requirements:

Under the current federal travel requirements, individuals must do the following upon return from international travel:

- Wear a mask at all times when in public spaces for 14 days (including at child care, unless under 2 years old)
- Maintaining a list of all close contacts for your first 14 days in Canada
- Monitor yourself and your child for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

According to the Ministry of Health, if you are exposed to a case of COVID-19 in the community:

- Wear a mask for 10 days, avoid activities where mask removal is necessary (such as dining out, high contact sports) and follow all other public health measures if leaving home.

According to the Ministry of Health, if you live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19, you do not need to isolate if one of the following applies to you:

- You have previously tested positive in the last 90 days and do not have symptoms
- You are over 18 years old and have received a COVID-19 booster done
- You are under 18 years old and are fully vaccinated
- Children under 5 who are household contacts are required to stay home for 5 days (even if they are asymptomatic)

Instead

- Self-monitor for symptoms
- Wear a mask and avoid activities where mask removal would be necessary
- Do not visit anyone who is at higher risk of illness, such as seniors, or any highest risk settings (unless you previously tested positive in the past 90 days)
- If you do not meet any of the criteria above, you must isolate while the person with symptoms/positive test result isolates (or for 10 days if you are immunocompromised)

Medical Masks

- Staff members can choose whether or not to wear a mask in both indoor and outdoor settings. This is not a requirement. Families and guardians are not mandated to wear masks inside or outside of the centre.
- Are worn by staff when caring for a sick child or a child showing symptoms of illnesses.
- Children will wear a medical mask when showing any signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

- Exceptions include children under the age of 2 and those under 10 who will not tolerate a mask.
- Exceptions to adults wearing a mask include:
 - Being the only person in a room or area.
 - Medical or psychological reasons that hinder the individual's well-being.

Non-Medical Masks

- It is a choice for school age children to wear masks if they prefer, this is not a requirement.

How to Wear Your Mask

See: Ontario Public Health's video for [Putting on Mask and Eye Protection](#)

1. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer before putting on your mask.
2. Secure the elastic loops of the mask around your ears. If your mask has strings, tie them securely behind your head.
3. Cover your mouth and nose with the mask and make sure there are no gaps between the mask and your face.
4. Do not touch the front of the mask while you wear it. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 15 second or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if you accidentally touch your mask.

How to Discard Your Mask

See: Ontario Public Health's video for [Taking off Mask and Eye Protection](#)

1. Do not touch the front of your mask to remove it.
2. Remove elastic loops of the mask from around your ears or untie the string from behind your head.
3. Hold only the loops or strings and place the mask in a garbage bin with a lid.
4. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 15 seconds or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer after you discard your mask

Policy and Procedure Review

This policy and procedure will be reviewed and signed off by all employees before commencing employment/unpaid placement at Cygnets Cooperative Preschool and at any time where a change is made.

Updated and Reviewed August 25, 2020
Updated and Reviewed October 6, 2020
Updated and Reviewed March 2, 2020
Updated and Reviewed August 26th, 2021
Updated and Reviewed March 22nd, 2022

COVID-19 Outbreak: Program Reopening
Health and Safety Following Pandemic

Following an extended closure due to an order from the Ontario and/or Canadian Ministries of Health, Perth Public Health or due to a State of Emergency for health reasons, Cygnets Cooperative Preschool will put into place the following health and safety measures. Additional protocols are based on guidelines from the Ministry of Education and Perth Public Health and will be lifted in consultation with public health organizations.

- ❖ Increased disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces.
 - Doorknobs, light switches, soap dispensers, toilet handles, tablets, phones, speakers - To be cleaned twice a day
 - Toys will be cleaned daily and toys which are contaminated with bodily secretion (including but not limited to saliva) will be removed immediately and disinfected as soon as possible.
- ❖ Increased laundering
 - Wash cloths, towels for toy cleaning and cloth barriers will be put in the laundry after each use.
- ❖ For disinfecting
 - Ready to Use Oxivir Spray on surfaces and let it sit for a minimum of 1 minutes (for snack tables sitting for a minimum of 5 minutes) prior to wiping and drying or air drying.
 - Ready to Use Oxivir Wipes for ledges, shelves, tablets, binders, pens, phones, cubbies, large toys, counters (items in the room easily wiped)
- ❖ Performing proper hand hygiene (follow the Hand Hygiene and Personal Protective Equipment Policy and Procedure).
 - This includes assisting children in proper hand hygiene

Updated and Reviewed October 7, 2020
Updated and Reviewed May 13, 2021
Updated and Reviewed August 13, 2021
Updated and Reviewed March 22, 2022

COVID-19 Outbreak: Program Reopening
Enhanced Sanitary Practice Policy

Policy Statement

Cygnets Cooperative Preschool is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for children, families and employees. Cygnets will take every reasonable precaution to prevent the risk of communicable disease within our centre.

Purpose

Following an extended closure due to an order from the Ontario and/or Canadian Ministries of Health, Huron Perth Public Health Department or due to a State of Emergency for health reasons, Cygnets Cooperative Preschool will put into place the following health and safety measures. Additional protocols are based on guidelines from the Ministry of Education and Huron Perth Public Health Department and will be lifted in consultation with public health organizations. The requirements in this policy are in addition to the attached regular operational policies and procedures as per the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014:

- Cleaning and Sanitary Practices including additional enhancements for reopening program
- Diapering and Toileting Procedures
- Universal Precautions

Application

This policy applies to all employees, students, volunteers and any other persons engaged in business with Cygnets Cooperative Preschool.

Procedures

All products including cleaning agents and disinfectants must be out of reach of children, labelled, and must have Safety Data Sheets (SDS) up to date (within three years), which are stored in the WHMIS binder. Products must not be expired and have a DIN number approved by Health Canada.

Increased Proper Handwashing:

All employees and children must wash their hands with soap and water following the "Reduce the Spread Covid-19. Wash your Hands." Poster.

An alcohol based sanitizer that meets Health Canada requirements will be available and may be used if soap and water are not available. Hand sanitizers will be kept out of reach of the children and away from flame and sources of heat.

Increased Cleaning and Disinfecting Surfaces

Cleaning

- Use detergent and warm water to clean visibly soiled surfaces
- Rinse the surface with clean water (warm to tepid temperature preferred) to ensure detergent is removed
- Let the surface dry

Disinfecting

- Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide (AHP) was approved by Huron Perth Public Health for use in our child care centres as a disinfectant.
- The AHP disinfecting products used in Cygnets is Oxivir Solution in Ready to Use spray or Wipes. All are considered high-level disinfectants which are defined as the complete elimination of all microorganisms in or on a surface.
 - **Must be mixed and tested before use, (Contact time is 5 minutes). Test strips will be used to ensure all cleaning products meet the proper effectiveness and dilution criteria.

Cleaning and disinfecting procedures will be increased during such times where the risk of environmental contamination is higher.

Cleaning and Sanitizing Toys and Surfaces

Toys will be cleaned on a daily basis per program and immediately following contact with a child's mouth. All toys will be washed and disinfected before they are stored. Given the current COVID-19 pandemic, toys will be cleaned more frequently and in accordance with the advice from Huron Perth Public Health.

Toys that need to be laundered will be placed in the laundry hamper for the assigned person to take care of. Each classroom staff is responsible to disinfect larger toys and equipment that remains in the classroom on an ongoing basis using Oxivir spray. (5 minute contact time)

Staff will spray down tops of toy shelves/tables/chairs and any surface the children are touching with Oxivir solution and allow for 5 minute contact time.

High- touch surfaces with frequent contact with hands such as light switches, shelving, containers, handrails, door knobs, sinks, toilets must be cleaned at least twice per day and as often as necessary.

Low-touch surfaces that have minimal contact with hands such as window ledges, doors, sides of furnishings must be cleaned and disinfected daily.

Carpets are to be vacuumed daily when the rooms are available, i.e. during outdoor play or after program.

Items that pose a sanitary risk to children such as soiled/mouthed, worn items or in disrepair will be cleaned/repared immediately or discarded.

Floors must be cleaned and disinfected daily and as required when spills occur and throughout the day when rooms are available.

Immediately clean and disinfect all areas and items in the program room and outdoors that were touched by a child who begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 while in care.

Food Services

Surfaces such as tables and chairs are washed prior to disinfecting as dirt will cause the sanitizer to become inactive. Tables and chairs will be cleaned and disinfected before and after each use. Spills must be cleaned and disinfected immediately.

Hand Wash Sinks

All handwashing and program sinks, countertops and soap dispensers must be cleaned and disinfected at least two times per day and as often as necessary when visibly dirty or contaminated with bodily fluids.

Diapering and Toileting

Employees will adhere to regular diapering and toileting procedures and will ensure proper cleaning and disinfecting between diaper changes and toileting processes.

For creams and lotions during diapering, never put hands directly into lotion or cream bottles, use a tissue or single-use gloves. Upon arrival at the centre, wipe the cream/lotion container with a disinfecting wipe.

The frequency of cleaning and sanitizing schedule for toilets, toilet seats, flush handle and toilet training items will be increased.

Pacifiers

Pacifiers, if used, must be individually labelled and stored separately (not touching each other). The plastic handle of the pacifier must be washed in soap and water upon arrival at the centre.

Isolation Space

The office will be made available to be used as the isolation space if needed. All belongings of the child being isolated will be immediately removed from the program room and placed in a bag. The area and items the child touched in the program room will be immediately cleaned and sanitized. Immediately after the child is picked up, the isolation room must be cleaned and disinfected including all hard surfaced toys, furniture, and any linens used will be laundered separately.

All PPE items used by the employee who supervised the child in the isolation room will be disposed of or immediately washed once the ill child leaves the centre as well as all doors/handles going in and out of the centre will be disinfected.

Blood/Bodily Fluids

1. The area around the spill will be isolated so that no other objects/people can be contaminated.
2. Gather all supplies, perform hand hygiene, put on single-use nitrile gloves.
3. Use disposable paper towels to clean up fluid including any splash/splatter in the surrounding area and dispose of in a separate garbage bag.
4. Clean the spill area with detergent, warm water and single-use towels and rinse to remove detergent residue with clean water and disposable towel.
5. Discard used paper towels and gloves immediately in a tied plastic bag.
6. Spray and disinfectant in and around the spill and allow appropriate contact time.
7. A final rinse is required if children will come into contact with the area.
8. Hand hygiene as directed.

Roles and Responsibilities

Employees

- Ensure handwashing requirements are followed and ensure children are asked and supported in meeting handwashing requirements.
- Ensure hand sanitizer is kept out of reach of children and away from flame and sources of heat.
- Perform all cleaning and sanitizing as per assigned to working shifts.
- Ensure all sanitary practices and procedures are implemented as outlined.

Supervisors

- In addition to employee requirements, both of the Supervisors must:
 - Ensure all policy requirements are met by all employees at all times and provide training if needed.
 - Ensure Handwashing Poster is posted at all handwashing sinks and followed.
 - Conduct frequent reviews of all disinfecting schedules various times throughout the day.

- Ensure adequate supply of cleaning, disinfecting, sanitizing and PPE supplies are on the premises at all times.
- Ensure all cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing products meet Health Canada COVID-19 requirements.
- Immediately address, document and inform the Executive Director of any non-compliances.

Policy and Procedure Review

This policy and procedure will be reviewed and signed off by all employees before commencing employment/unpaid placement at Cygnets Cooperative Preschool, and at any time where a change is made.

Updated and Reviewed August 24, 2020
Updated and Reviewed October 6, 2020
Updated and Reviewed August 26th, 2021
Updated and Reviewed March 22nd, 2022

COVID-19 Outbreak: Program Reopening
Exclusion of Infectious or Ill Children, Staff and Volunteers

Policy Statement

Cygnets Cooperative Preschool is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for children, families and employees. Cygnets will take every reasonable precaution to prevent the risk of communicable diseases within all our emergency child care locations.

Purpose

To ensure all employees are aware of and adhere to the directive established by Huron Perth Public Health, the Ontario Ministry of Health, and Cygnets Cooperative Preschool regarding the exclusion of sick children in emergency child care centres.

Application

This policy applies to all employees, students, community members and any other persons engaged in business with Cygnets Cooperative Preschool.

Procedures

As required by the Child Care and Early Years Act, Cygnets Cooperative Preschool must separate children of ill health and contact parents/guardians to take the child home.

When children are ill and/or exhibit COVID-19 related symptoms, child care employees will ensure the following:

- Ill children will be separated into the designated isolation space, and will be removed from other children and monitored by an employee until parent/guardian pick up
- Symptoms of illness will be recorded in the child's daily record and in a daily log as per the CCEYA
- The parent/guardian of the ill children will be notified to take them home; or
- If it appears that the child requires immediate medical attention, the child will be taken to the hospital by ambulance and examined by a legally qualified medical practitioner or a nurse registered under the Health Disciplines Act. R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 262, s.34 (3)

If it is suspected that a child has symptoms of a reportable communicable disease (refer to Huron Perth Public Health's Guidelines for Common Communicable Diseases), one of the Supervisors/Designate will call Huron Perth Public Health at 1-888-221-2133 extension 3225.

When to Exclude

Child care employees should exclude a sick child when the child has any signs and/or symptoms that are greater than normal, or if the child is unable to participate in regular programming because of illness (refer to Huron Perth Public Health's Communicable Disease Exclusion Guidelines for Schools and Daycares.)

- A child should be excluded if they have one or more of the following symptoms of COVID-19:
 - Fever (37.8 degrees Celsius or higher)
 - New or worsening chronic cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Sore throat
 - Difficulty swallowing
 - New olfactory (smell) or taste disorder
 - Nausea/vomiting
 - Diarrhea
 - Abdominal pain
 - Runny nose/sneezing or nasal congestion (without other known cause such as seasonal allergies)
 - Clinical or medical evidence of pneumonia
- Atypical symptoms should be considered, particularly in children, older persons and people living with a developmental disability including:
 - Unexplained fatigue/malaise
 - Delirium (acutely altered mental status and inattention)
 - Unexplained or increase number of falls
 - Acute functional decline
 - Exacerbation of chronic conditions
 - Chills
 - Headaches
 - Croup
 - Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
 - Multi-system inflammatory vasculitis in children
 - Lethargy, difficulty feeding in infants (if no other diagnosis)

Individuals with COVID-19 Symptoms

- Individuals with COVID-19 symptoms (as below) who are ineligible for PCR/Rapid molecular testing are presumed to have COVID-19 infection and are advised to self-isolate as soon as possible after symptom onset.
- COVID-19 symptoms includes"
 - Fever and/or chills; OR
 - Cough; OR

- Shortness of breath; OR
- Decrease or loss of taste or smell; OR
- Two or more of:
 - Runny nose/ nasal congestion
 - Headache
 - Extreme fatigue
 - Sore throat
 - Muscle aches/joint pain
 - Gastrointestinal symptoms (i.e. vomiting or diarrhea)
- If the individual's symptoms are not included within the covid-19 symptoms list above, they should stay home until symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (or 28 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms) to limit the spread of other illnesses that individuals may have and to monitor for the development of additional symptoms.
 - Household members and other contacts of these individuals do not need to self-isolate, as long as they have no symptoms.
 - If the individual develops additional symptoms such that they now meet the COVID-19 symptom list above, they and their household should follow the guidance above.

Time-Based Clearance for Test-Positive Cases and Individuals with COVID-19 symptoms

- Infection with COVID-19 likely provides short-term protection against reinfection. Individuals who have recently been infected with COVID-19 (either test-confirmed or symptoms of COVID-19) are still recommended to be up-to-date on their COVID-19 vaccinations for maximal protection against future infection (i.e. receive all recommended doses, including booster doses) in alignment with recommended dose intervals post-infection.

The recommended duration of self-isolation after the date of specimen collection or symptom onset (whichever is earlier/applicable) depends on relevant clinical factors such as age, vaccination status, severity of infection, and immune status. In all scenarios, symptoms need to be improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms) and no fever present prior to ending self-isolation.

Table 1: Isolation Period for Test-Positive Cases and Individuals with COVID-19 Symptoms

Isolation period	Population
5 days after the date of specimen collection or symptom onset (whichever is earlier/applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fully vaccinated individuals - Children under the age of 12

10 days after the date of specimen collection or symptom onset (whichever is earlier/applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individuals 12 + who are not fully vaccinated - Immunocompromised - Hospitalized for COVID-19 related illness (or at discretion of hospital IPAC) - Residing in a highest-risk setting
20 days after the date of specimen collection or symptom onset (whichever is earlier/applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Severe illness (requiring ICU level of care or at discretion of hospital IPAC)

- If self-isolation is complete after 5 days, additional precautions are needed due to residual risk of ongoing infectiousness
- For a total of 10 days (or 20 days for immunocompromised individuals) after symptom onset (or the date of the specimen collection, whichever is earlier / applicable) individuals must:
 - Continue to wear a well-fitted mask in all public settings
 - Individuals should maintain masking as much as possible in public settings. Reasonable exceptions would include temporary removal for essential activities like eating (e.g. when eating in shared space at school/work while maintaining as much distancing from others as possible)
 - Participation in activities where masking can be maintained throughout may be resumed, but individuals should avoid activities where mask removal would be necessary (e.g. dining out)
 - Individuals who are exempt from masking (e.g. children under two years of age, etc.) may return to public settings without masking
 - Not visit anyone who is immunocompromised or at higher risk of illness (i.e. seniors)
 - Not visit or attend work in any highest risk settings.

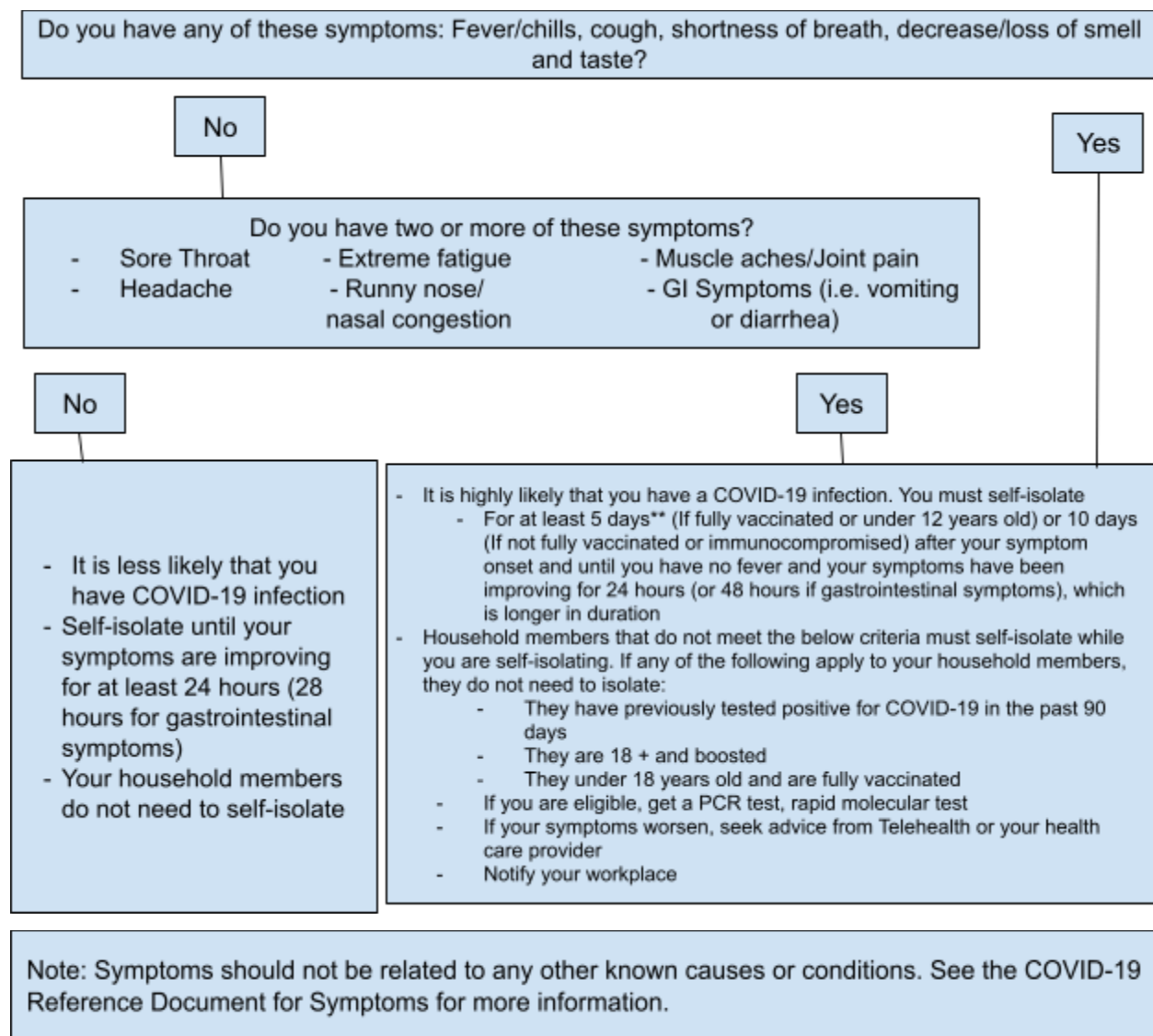
Test-Based Clearance

- Workers who are test-positive cases or isolated due to COVID-19 symptoms are not required to provide proof of a negative test result or a positive serological test result to their employers in order to return to work.
- It is expected that workers who have tested positive or who have symptoms of COVID-19 abide by public health direction (and occupational health, where applicable) and advice on when they would be considered clear to return to work.
- Generally, test-based clearance for COVID-19 test-positive cases (rapid antigen test or molecular) is not recommended (e.g., use of rapid antigen test to obtain a negative result to end self-isolation period early after an initial positive test).
 - An exception is for early return to work in highest-risk settings during critical work shortages. See COVID-19 Interim Guidance: Omicron 14 | Page Surge Management of Critical Staffing Shortages in Highest Risk Settings Guidance for more information on early return to work.

Individuals with COVID-19 symptoms with access to Rapid Antigen Tests

- Molecular testing is no longer being recommended for all individuals in the community with symptoms compatible with COVID-19. If individuals with COVID-19 symptoms have access to rapid antigen tests, rapid antigen tests may be used to assess the likelihood that symptoms are related to COVID-19, otherwise individuals should isolate following the time-based clearance guidance above.
 - A single negative rapid antigen test in an individual with COVID-19 symptoms does not mean that they do not have COVID-19 infection.
 - If two consecutive rapid antigen tests, separated by 24-48 hours, are both negative, the symptomatic individual is less likely to have COVID19 infection, and they are advised to self-isolate until they have no fever and symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (or 48 hours if gastrointestinal symptoms).
 - The household members of the symptomatic individual with two negative tests may also discontinue self-isolation, as long as they are asymptomatic and have not had a positive test result themselves.

You have Symptoms and are concerned you may have COVID-19. Now What?



Management of Household Members

- COVID-19 positive cases/individuals with COVID-19 symptoms should isolate away from household members where possible to avoid ongoing exposure.
- Household members of the COVID-19 positive case/individual with COVID-19 symptoms, should generally self-isolate while the individual with COVID-19 symptoms is isolating, with the following exceptions:
 - Household members who are 18 years of age and older and have already received their booster dose are not required to self-isolate
 - Household members who are under 18 years of age and are considered fully vaccinated are not required to self-isolate.

- Household members who have previously tested positive for COVID19 in the last 90 days (based on positive rapid antigen test or molecular test results), are not required to self-isolate and can attend high-risk settings, as long as they are currently asymptomatic.
- If self-isolation is complete after 5 days, or if self-isolation is not required, for a total of 10 days after the last exposure to the COVID-19 case, ALL household members must:
 - Self-monitor for symptoms and self-isolate if they develop any symptom of COVID-19;
 - Continue to wear a well-fitted mask in all public settings.
 - Individuals should maintain masking as much as possible in public settings. Reasonable exceptions would include removal for essential activities like eating (e.g., when eating in shared space at school/work and maintaining as much distancing as possible)
 - Participation in activities where masking can be maintained throughout may be resumed, but individuals should avoid activities where mask removal would be necessary (e.g., dining out)
 - Individuals who are exempt from masking (e.g., children under two years of age, etc.) may return to public settings without masking
 - Not visit anyone who is immunocompromised or at higher risk of illness (i.e. seniors)
 - Not visit or attend work in any highest-risk settings (unless they have previously tested positive for COVID-19 on a rapid antigen test or molecular test in the past 90 days).
- For self-isolating household members that have not developed symptoms, if any other household member develops COVID-19 symptoms, they should extend their self-isolation until the last symptomatic (or COVID-19 positive) person has finished their self-isolation period.
 - The initial COVID-19 positive case/individual with symptoms of COVID19 does not have to extend their self-isolation period based on other household members becoming ill

Management of Non-Household Close Contacts

Definition of Close Contacts:

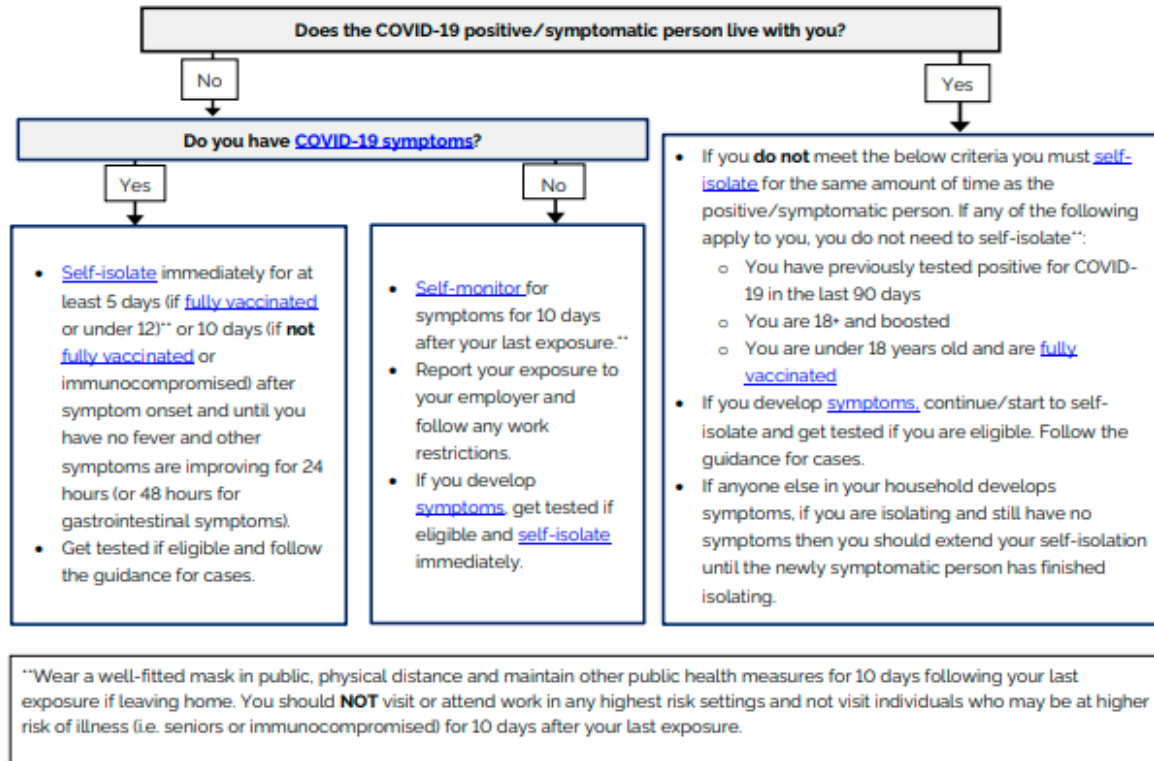
- Close contacts include those who had contact with the ill/COVID-19 positive individual within the 48 hours prior to their symptom onset if symptomatic or 48 hours prior to the specimen collection date (if asymptomatic/applicable) and until they started self-isolating;
AND
 - Were in close proximity (less than 2 meters) for at least 15 minutes or for multiple short periods of time without appropriate measures as masking, distancing and/or use of personal protective equipment (as per Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19 in Ontario).

- If the symptomatic/COVID-19 positive individual attends group settings (e.g., childcare, school, in-person work), generally, contacts in those settings (e.g., the classroom cohort) would not be considered close contacts due to the layering of health and safety measures in place in these settings. However, specific individuals in those settings may be identified by the case as close contacts based on the nature of their interactions with the case (e.g. breach in measures, interactions outside of the setting).

Advice to Non-Household Close Contacts

- Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 (on a rapid antigen test, PCR test or rapid molecular test) and individuals with COVID-19 symptoms are advised to inform their close contacts of their potential exposure to COVID-19. For a total of 10 days after the last exposure to the COVID-19 case, close contacts must:
 - Self-monitor for symptoms and self-isolate if they develop any symptom of COVID-19;
 - Continue to wear a well fitted mask in all public settings; Individuals should maintain masking as much as possible in public settings. Reasonable exceptions would include removal for essential activities like eating (e.g., when eating in shared space at school/work and maintaining as much distancing as possible)
 - Participation in activities where masking can be maintained throughout may be resumed, but individuals should avoid activities where mask removal would be necessary (e.g. dining out);
 - Individuals who are exempt from masking (e.g., children under two years of age, etc.) may return to public settings without masking
- Not visit anyone who is immunocompromised or at higher risk of illness (i.e. seniors); o
- Not visit or attend work in any highest-risk settings (unless they have previously tested positive for COVID-19 on a RAT or molecular test in the past 90 days

You've been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or someone with COVID-19 symptoms. Now what?



Steps to Follow to Exclude:

1. If a child develops symptoms while in care, they should be immediately isolated in a separate, supervised, isolation space until parents can pick them up. If unable to reach parents, then call the emergency person listed.
2. Only one educator should be in the designated space with the ill child and attempt physical distancing of 2 metres when possible.
3. If the educator supervising the symptomatic child cannot maintain a distance of 2 metres, they will wear the personal protective equipment including:
 - i. Disposable medical grade mask only (cloth not suitable)

The educator will follow the proper steps for putting on and taking off PPE. Additionally they should avoid touching their face, especially with gloved or unwashed hands.

The child should also wear a mask if tolerated. Note: Children under age two should not have their face covered due to suffocation risk.

4. Increase ventilation in the designated isolation room if possible (e.g open doors/windows)
5. Tissues should be provided to the child for proper respiratory etiquette, with proper disposal of the tissues and proper hand hygiene.
6. Once the child and their siblings have been picked up, immediately conduct environmental cleaning of the space the child was separated in.
7. Parents will be encouraged to call their health care provider to have the child assessed and tested for COVID-19. If they do not have a doctor, they can call Huron Perth Public Health to be assessed.
8. A child who is under the age of 11 or double vaccinated, who tests positive for COVID-19 must be excluded from Cygnets Cooperative Preschool for 5 days after the onset of symptoms. In order to return, they must be 24 hours, symptoms improving. A child must test negative on two COVID-19 rapid tests, 24 hours apart and must be 24 hours after symptoms have improved to come back to Cygnets.
9. Children, employees or volunteers/students who have been exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19 or symptomatic person(s) outside the child care centre, should self-monitor for 14 days if the close contact is outside of their house. Then isolate at the onset of symptoms. If someone in the same household tests positive, individuals who are double vaccinated may continue to go to school or work while self-monitoring as long as the infected individual can self-isolate away from the family.
10. All advice from Huron Perth Public Health will be followed regarding isolation, testing and exclusion.
11. Serious Occurrence reporting will be handled following the unusual procedure by one of the Supervisors/Designate, should it be required.

Exclusions for Children Experiencing Non-COVID Related Symptoms

- Child(ren) should be isolated until the parent can pick them up.
- Parents will be encouraged to have the child assessed by a Healthcare Provider.
- Following the direction of the Health Care Provider - if determined to not be COVID-19 related, the child may be allowed back to the child care centre 24 hours after the symptoms have improved. This extends to 48 hours symptom free during gastrointestinal outbreaks.

Surveillance

Ensuring that all environmental conditions are constantly monitored is essential in prevention and reducing illness. Employees must monitor for an increase in the above normal amount of illnesses among other employees and children by looking at the normal occurrence of illness during the specific time period.

Ensure surveillance includes the following:

- Actively observe children for illness upon arrival
- Complete mid-morning or mid-afternoon health check
- Record symptoms of illness for each child including signs or complaints the child may describe including sore throat, stomachache, headache, etc.)
- Record the date and time that the symptoms occur
- Record the program room the child is in
- Record attendances and absences

Returning from Exclusion Due to Illness

Employees, Children and Volunteers/Students who are being managed by Huron Perth Public Health with confirmed cases of COVID-19 or household contacts of COVID-19 cases should follow instructions from Huron Perth Public Health to determine when to return to the centre.

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