



Effective Immediately, SSLC will be altering our Covid-19 related policies to adhere to the most recent information provided to us, from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, the Jefferson County Public Health department, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

This policy is subject to change, with no prior notice required. Any addendums will take effect immediately, unless otherwise communicated. We are continuously evaluating our policies and procedures for effectiveness and areas for improvement. Additionally, updated information and public health orders may also be reason for changes to policies and procedures. Any directives given by the state licensing department, as well as the local and state health departments, will take precedence over any policies currently in place, here at SSLC.

Please take note- Quarantine procedures for all ages are the same. However, isolation differs among our 2 years old and up group, and our children under the age of 2 years.

- **Isolation for positive cases AGES 2+–** Day 0 is symptom onset or test collection. Isolate for 5 days, return on 6th day ONLY IF fever free within 24 hours of return (without fever reducing medication) and significantly improved symptoms.
 - A mask must be worn for the remaining 5 days of the 10 day possible contagious period, in order to return prior to Day 11. Information provided to SSLC indicates that the majority of individuals who contract covid-19 are most contagious 2 days prior to, and 2 days after, developing symptoms. However, they may be contagious for up to 10 days.
 - If mask proper mask wearing is not possible, or desired, positive individuals will need to isolate for a minimum of 10 days.
- **Isolation for positive cases UNDER AGE 2–** Day 0 is symptom onset or test collection. Isolate for 10 days, return on 11th day ONLY IF fever free within 24 hours of return (without fever reducing medication) and significantly improved symptoms.
 - A mask cannot be worn in this age group. Information provided to SSLC indicates that the majority of individuals who contract covid-19 are most contagious 2 days prior to, and 2 days after, developing symptoms. However, they may be contagious for up to 10 days. For this reason, those who are unable to wear a mask for the remainder of the possible contagious period will not be able to return to SSLC until the full 10 days have passed
- **Quarantine for exposed people (ALL AGES)–** any close contacts who have not received all vaccines that they are eligible for need to quarantine for 5 days. Can return on 6th day, with a negative covid test result, as long as they are symptom free.
 - Ages 2 and up will be required to wear masks, in order to return on day 6, until they at least reach Day 11. Ages 3 and up are required to wear masks every day, already, and will continue to do so until we receive updated public health orders.
 - Must test no sooner than Day 5, can return on Day 6 if there are no symptoms, and a the covid test conducted is either a proctored home test (only available for ages 2 and up) or conducted at a community-based, licensed testing site (all ages).
 - If one chooses to opt out of testing or mask wearing, he/she must quarantine for the full 10 day period, and may return on the 11th day if no symptoms have developed.
 - Should symptoms develop, a negative test will be needed, in order to return, without the need for isolation.

- Persons who DO NOT need to quarantine: Anyone who is not showing symptoms, and is fully vaccinated, within 6 months of their completion of the primary series; fully vaccinated and BOOSTED (and 2 weeks out from that booster if they are over 6 months out from primary vaccine series completion.)
- Previously, if an individual was within a 90 day window from having contracted covid, they did not need to test or quarantine due to exposure. The 90 days since testing positive rule NO LONGER applies, due to Omicron now being the primary circulating variant.
- **Exposure within the same household-** if an individual is not fully vaccinated (see above) and he/she shares a household with an individual who has been determined to have Covid-19, he or she may not start their quarantine period until the positive individual is past his/her contagious period. Given the assumption that masks are not worn within the household, it must also be noted that an individual may still shed the virus for up to 10 days. Therefore, any exposed household member must wait until the positive individual has reached Day 11 to begin his/her quarantine period. On day 11, the exposed contacts may begin his/her quarantine period (described above).
- **Reporting of Positive Cases/Exposure & Outbreaks-** All enrolled families and staff members are required to report sign of illness, positive cases, and possible exposure to reportable illnesses, including but not limited to covid-19. If a family/staff members fails to report these incidents to SSLC management, this may be grounds for immediate termination. Positive cases and outbreaks are still required to be reported to SSLC. SSLC will then report to the local licensing and health department agencies.
 - Should we receive 5 or more positive cases within any 14 day period, the health department will likely declare our center in outbreak status. At this time, we will work with the epidemiologists to determine if a center-wide closure is needed, the length of the closure, and any further instructions. All families will be updated after we are briefed by our liaison at the health department.
- **Staff Isolations/Quarantine, Outside Care-** SSLC consistently schedules enough staff to ensure that, should we have teachers/assistants unexpectedly absent, we can still meet the mandatory ratios required for our center to operate. However, should too many staff members fall ill at once, or need to quarantine/isolate, this could potentially lead to our center being too short-staffed to open. For this reason, we have very clear and firm policies regarding regular testing, vaccinations, etc. However, with covid, which has proven to be anything but predictable, there is always a possibility that we could run into this issue. In the event that this happens, a list of healthy staff members who are available/comfortable to care for children, outside of SSLC's environment, will be provided to families. Arrangements made for care with an SSLC employee is a separate agreement between said family/employee, and SSLC will not be held liable in these situations. SSLC employees are prohibited from providing care to families who are unable to attend SSLC, due to illness, quarantine, or isolation. SSLC employees are not permitted to provide outside care if it will conflict with scheduling within the center.

PLEASE BE SURE TO LOOK OVER THE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR CLARIFICATION/SPECIAL NOTES



Of special note-

Why test on Day 5?

The day for testing, Day 5, is determined to be best practice because this is when the virus is known to be at a great enough concentration to be detected via testing. If an individual develops symptoms prior to Day 5, he/she may opt to test sooner. However, if testing is done sooner than Day 5 and the result is negative, a confirmation test will be needed, on Day 5 or after, in order to return.

Isolation vs. Quarantine

Isolation applies to any individual, regardless of vaccination status, who tests positive, or is presumed positive, for Covid-19. Quarantine applies to any close contacts that have not received all vaccines that they are eligible for.

Where is this information reflected in the Return to Learn handouts?

The CDPHE and the local health department are currently working on creating updated documents to reflect most current practices. The symptoms described in the current documents are remain the same.

Do I Receive Any Tuition Credit?

As with any absence, your tuition pays for your child's spot, and not actual hours of attendance. We rely on tuition to ensure the viability of our program. However, SSLC is more than happy to provide you with information regarding your rights to be paid, in the event that a covid exposure or isolation causes you to miss work. We can also help direct you to resources for free/reduced utilities, food, supplies, medical care (including mental health), covid testing, and more. Finding ways to continue to serve our community is our passion, so please do not hesitate to ask!

Masks Wearing

SSLC currently requires all individuals, ages 3 and up, to wear masks indoors, unless eating or sleeping, as outlined in the current public health orders for childcare centers and preschools. 2 year olds are encouraged to wear masks, but are not required. Proper mask wearing does allow us to decrease the amount of individuals required to quarantine, in the event of a covid exposure within our program. If parents/guardians prefer, we will assist in supporting their 2 year old in wearing a mask.

At Home Testing

Whenever possible, we will be happy to share home covid tests with members of our community. However, we cannot accept any home test results unless they are the proctored Abbot BinaxNOW Ag



test. These tests involve the use of an app or website that allows a live representative to ensure accuracy and correct administration. You will also be able to access official results, which our center will need a copy of in the event that you are using this test for return to learn requirements. Unfortunately, at this time, Abbot does not allow families to register children under the age of 2 for these tests. For this reason, this is not an option for families of children under the age of 2, for the use of return to learn procedures. We recommend calling your pediatrician or visiting www.covidcheckcolorado.org to obtain covid testing for infants/toddlers. We have, however, had many families grab covid test kits to use, without registering for the proctored results, for their own peace of mind. We are more than happy to share kits that we have available with any family!

Regarding Illnesses Beyond Covid-19

Our regular illness policy, found in our Family Handbook, is available at all times via the Brightwheel Document hub, and on our website (under the "Enrollment Forms" tab) www.SSLCofLittleton.com The terms of our regular illness policy are still in effect, in addition to the covid policy. However, the terms here do take precedence over the regular policy.