



**December 2022**

SCDC Families and Employees:

As Oregon continues to place focus on COVID-19 prevention, the Early Learning Division (ELD) in coordination with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has updated its [Child Care Provider COVID-19 Requirements and Recommendations](#). SCDC will continue to follow best practices protocols and recommended prevention strategies to help prevent exposure and transmission of COVID-19. This is an outline of updates to COVID-19 guidance:

### **General COVID-19 Exclusion Protocol**

- Child care providers are required to:
  - Exclude from the program any child or staff member who has COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, for the time period specified in the rules adopted by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) under OAR 333, Division 19 (OAR 333-019-0010), and in accordance with OHA guidance related to isolation or quarantine, as applicable.
    - All confirmed and presumptive cases, including asymptomatic cases, must be excluded from the program for five days after the onset of symptoms or positive test. Individuals may return after five days and when symptoms are improving and 24 hours fever-free without the use of a fever-reducing medication.
    - When returning to care, it is recommended that individuals 2 years and older wear a well-fitting mask for an additional five days after their isolation is completed. Individuals who cannot or do not wear a mask should continue to be excluded for an additional five days, for a total of 10 days.
    - The exclusion period can be shortened if an individual with symptoms of COVID-19 tests negative at any time during the five-day period. SCDC will consult with the Local Public Health Authority for additional guidance.
  - Notify as soon as possible all families and other individuals if there has been a case of COVID-19. Programs should notify families of an exposure so they can watch for symptoms or test.
  - Notify the Local Public Health Authority immediately of unusually high levels of absenteeism (on any given day) due to respiratory illnesses (symptoms may include new cough, fever, shortness of breath, congestion/runny nose, new loss of taste or smell). SCDC will give as much notice as possible to families & employees should we be required to reinstate past COVID-19 Emergency Child Care (ECC) protocols. This could be due to State announcement and/or related to county risk levels.
- **The current Isolation & Quarantine Guidance is included at the end of this document for your reference.**
- **Illness Exclusion Policy:**
  - Please be mindful of illnesses that will continue to show up. As always, we ask you to keep your child out of care, or a child will be sent home if they exhibit symptoms such as fever, diarrhea, vomiting, nausea, severe cough, unusual yellow color to skin or eyes, skin or eye lesions or rashes that are severe, weeping, or pus-filled, stiff neck and headache with one or more of the symptoms listed previously, difficult breathing or abnormal wheezing, or complaints of severe pain. Then, the child may return 24 hours after symptoms resolve, or with documented direction/approval from a medical professional.

- **Face Coverings:**
  - Face coverings are welcome, but optional for all employees, families, children & visitors. SCDC respects each person's individual decision on wearing a face covering.
  - SCDC will be following the guidance from the ELD, OHA, and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) that may impact the need to adjust face covering requirements. Face coverings may be required again for employees, age-appropriate children & others entering our facilities if an outbreak or increased community spread requires additional protection.
- **Visitors:**
  - Visitors may include building maintenance personnel, delivery services, breastfeeding mothers or other parents/guardians whose children's dietary needs require parental assistance, professionals providing special or emergency services, or a family member checking on a child due to a concern regarding the child's health and safety. Limited facility tours for prospective families are available by appointment only. Any visitor may choose to wear a face covering and use an outdoor space if appropriate and available.
- **Handwashing & Hand Sanitizer:** Handwashing and/or hand sanitizer will be easily accessible, though hand sanitizer will be stored out of the reach of children when not in use.
  - All employees and children will be required to wash their hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds as follows:
    - Before and after eating, preparing food or bottles
    - Before and after administering medication
    - After toileting or assisting with toileting
    - Before and after diapering
  - All employees and children will be required to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer as follows:
    - After wiping a nose, coughing, or sneezing
    - After coming in from outdoors
    - Upon entering and leaving the facility
    - When moving between stable groups
    - Before and after putting-on, taking-off or touching a face covering
- **Food & Nutrition:** Snacks and milk will continue to be provided by SCDC, however food will be prepackaged into individual servings. Families are still welcome to provide their own snacks and will need to continue to provide a lunch, unless school district food services are available. Children will be closely supervised to prevent sharing of food. All eating surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized before and after snacks and meals. Drinking fountains may only be used to fill individual water bottles. **Please provide your child with a clean labeled water bottle daily.**
- **Cleaning & Building Maintenance:** At early learning programs a disinfecting bleach solution will be made fresh daily and used to clean high touch surfaces throughout each day. At school age programs school district approved products will be used to clean high touch surfaces throughout each day. Toys and other learning materials will be collected after use and cleaned and sanitized using a three-step process of washing with soap, rinsing with water and sanitizing for germs.

SCDC's COVID-19 point of contact is Kristy Heitling, Multi-Site Coordinator. Questions or concerns may be addressed to Kristy at [kristy@salemchild.org](mailto:kristy@salemchild.org) or at (503) 363-9821.

We will continue to remain diligent at recognizing signs of illness & ask that you continue to help us by staying home if anyone in your household is not feeling well. As we continue to take care of our own personal health, we all have a responsibility for keeping each other safe. SCDC asks that you continue to be socially responsible and give everyone the space they need to feel safe. Anyone may choose to wear a face covering in situations when it is not required.

THANK YOU

Effective December 2022

# Isolation and Exclusion Guidelines for Child Care Settings

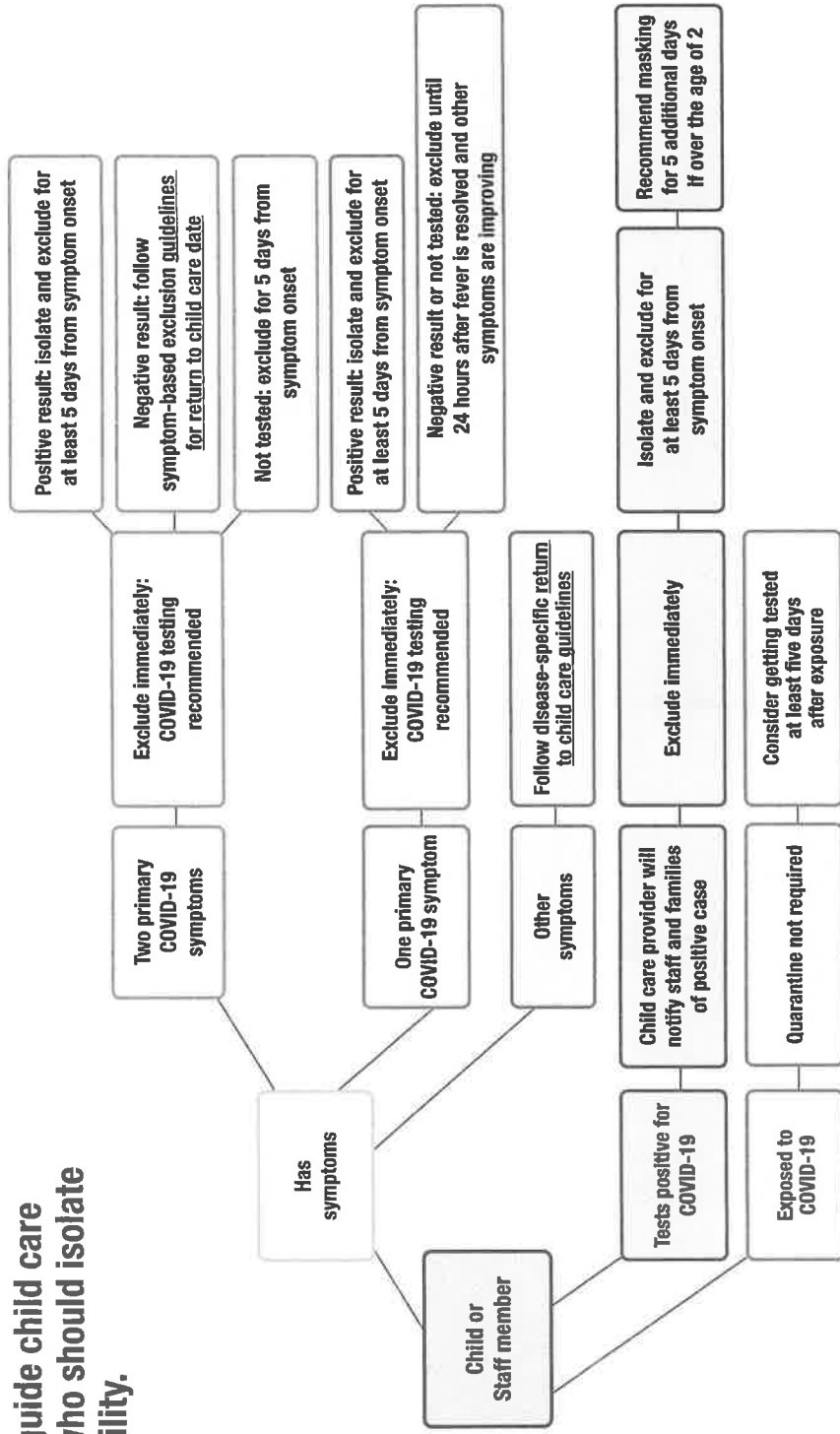
**This decision tree is to help guide child care providers in understanding who should isolate or be excluded from their facility.**

**Isolation** means staying home and away from others for at least 5 days if an individual tests positive or has two primary symptoms after being exposed to COVID-19. Individuals 2 years and older are recommended to mask for 5 additional days (day 6 through day 10) after the end of their 5-day isolation period. An individual should continue isolation if symptoms are not improving by day 5.

**Exclusion** means keeping a child or staff member out of a child care setting if they exhibit symptoms of communicable disease.

**Primary COVID-19 symptoms** are new cough (not related to a known underlying condition such as asthma or allergies), temperature of 100.4°F or higher, shortness of breath, and new loss of taste or smell.

**Other symptoms** include fatigue, body aches, chills, headache, sore throat, nasal congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, skin rash or sores, eye redness and jaundice.



**Questions?** Please contact [ProviderContact@ode.oregon.gov](mailto:ProviderContact@ode.oregon.gov) or The Oregon Health Authority's [If You Test Positive](https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ohd/covid19/Pages/You-Test-Positive-Header.aspx) [headline](https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ohd/covid19/Pages/You-Test-Positive-Header.aspx)