

Etobicoke Home Child Care Agency:

COVID -19 Parent/Guardian Agreement for Licensed Home Child Care

PURPOSE

Parents and Guardians need a safe, high-quality educational setting for children during the COVID – 19 Emergency. Affiliated Providers need to practice approved Public Health procedures to keep children, families, themselves, and their own residents safe while providing care. This agreement lays out the responsibilities of Providers, the Agency and client families so that everyone can participate safely in licensed home child care. As additional health and safety measures are made available, this agreement will be updated to reflect latest best practices and evidence.

SCREENING FOR ILLNESS PROCEDURE

As a parent/guardian, you can prevent the spread of illness by keeping your child(ren) home from child care if you or your child(ren) experience **any** of the following signs and symptoms:

- A temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius (100 degrees Fahrenheit) or above
- New or worsening cough or shortness of breath
- Lethargy (lack of energy) or difficulty feeding (if an infant and no other diagnosis)
- Any of the following symptoms*:
 - Sore throat
 - Chills
 - Diarrhea
 - Difficulty swallowing
 - Headaches
 - Nausea/vomiting
 - Pink eye (conjunctivitis)
 - Unexplained fatigue/malaise/muscle aches
 - Decrease or loss of sense of taste or smell
 - Nasal congestion without other known cause
 - Abdominal pain
 - Runny nose without other known cause
 - Croup (respiratory infection resulting in barking cough and difficulty breathing) (in children)
 - Rash (in children)

*Toronto Public Health may update this symptoms list upon further evidence covering COVID - 19

Parents/Guardians must perform a pre-screening of their child before coming to care each day. This includes checking a child’s temperature if they are showing signs of being ill and noting any other physical symptoms of illness.

If the child is sick they MUST NOT come to care. Parents/Guardians must inform their Provider that the child is being kept at home due to illness.

If any resident in the home has been exposed to COVID – 19, the child must remain at home.

Screening at the Licensed Home Child Care Premises:

Toronto Public Health requires a full screening of each person before they enter the care space each day. For children, this will be performed by the Provider at the door of the licensed Home Child Care premises and will include a temperature check and the asking of screening questions to determine additional physical symptoms of illness, and the child and family’s exposure to COVID – 19. Once the child passes the screening, they may enter care.

- Families are asked to have only ONE member bring the child(ren) to the home child care door and stay at least 6 feet or 2 metres distant from the screening station. There will be only one entrance and exit from the site.
- Families are requested to minimize personal items coming in with the child. Any bottles, sippy cups, or child-specific foods must be labelled with the child's full name.
- Young children who are not yet able to walk will be transferred by the parent/guardian using a blanket or via a stroller.
- PICK-UP: Screening is not necessary on the way out of care. It is recommended that the family member picking up the child(ren) call the Provider when they arrive, and to stay the proper physical distance away from the door. The Provider will bring the child(ren) and any items within a safe distance and back away.
- Parents/guardians must inform all individuals who may be dropping-off or picking-up their child(ren) of the active screening procedures and pick-up/drop-off protocols.

Exclusion of Child:

If the child has a temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius, or above, and / or any other symptom listed on the checklist, or the family member answers yes to exposure to COVID – 19, or to travel within the last 14 days, the child may NOT enter care.

- **The Parent/Guardian will be asked to return home with the child and contact Toronto Public Health for direction.**
- **The Provider will contact Etobicoke Home Child Care Agency and relay the signs and symptoms and/or answers to exposure questions that led to the child being excluded.**
- **The Agency will contact Toronto Public Health for guidance on next steps for the child, their family, and the Licensed Home Child Care premises**

COVID-19 screening results, including contact information, collected by the Licensed Home Child Care Agency/Provider during the screening process, may be provided to Toronto Public Health, to help manage and reduce the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus in a child care setting.

CHILD'S ILLNESS DURING CHILD CARE

If the child(ren) experiences **any** of the signs and symptoms listed above while in home child care, the Provider will contact the Parent/Guardian or one of the emergency contacts to pick up the child(ren) **immediately**.

- The child will be separated from the other children, as much as possible, while they await pick-up.
- It is the responsibility of the Parent/Guardian or their designated alternate to pick up the child as soon as possible to mitigate risk for others in the home child care site.
- Any other siblings of the sick child who are present in the home child care site must also be picked up.
- Children with symptoms that Toronto Public Health determines are **NOT** COVID related can return to care once their symptoms are absent for 24 hours, as per normal Agency policy. Any non-symptomatic siblings can return to care the next day, in this case.
- Children determined by Toronto Public Health to have symptoms consistent with COVID, or who have been exposed to a suspected or confirmed COVID case must be excluded from the home child care site for 14 days after the onset of symptoms.

- **Symptomatic children should get tested for COVID-19.** Refer to <https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-what-you-should-do/covid-19-have-symptoms-or-been-exposed/?accordion=get-tested> or the [Ministry of Health's website](#) for more information on testing including the list of COVID-19 assessment centres in Toronto Region.
- The Provider must notify the Licensed Home Child Care Agency ('Agency')
- The Agency must notify Toronto Public Health and the Ministry of Education.
- All individuals (children, parents/guardians, Providers, Provider's household members) who were previously ill, have been symptom free for 24 hours, have not had close contact with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, and have tested NEGATIVE for COVID-19 must provide the Agency with a copy of the test results.
- Back-up child care cannot be provided to any child(ren) who have had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 or a person with a suspected COVID-19 illness (unless the suspected case has tested negative for COVID-19)

COVID-19 Screening

Notice with Respect to the Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Health

The information pertaining to your COVID-19 Screening is being collected, used and disclosed under the authority of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act R.S.O 1990 c.H.7* and will be retained, used, disclosed and disposed of in accordance with all applicable municipal, federal and provincial laws and regulations governing the collection, use, disclosure and disposal of information including the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act R.S.O. 1990 c.M.5* and the *Personal Health Information Protection Act 2004 S.O. 2004 c.3*.

This information will be used by Toronto Public Health to investigate the occurrence of COVID-19 in the Toronto Region, provide case management, follow-up with close contacts to assess the risk to others, program planning and evaluation. If you test positive for COVID-19, your result may be disclosed to your daycare provider to reduce the risk of spreading the virus in a daycare setting. Any questions, regarding this collection, use or disclosure may be directed to Toronto Public Health, 416-338-7600, Option 1; publichealth@toronto.ca

As a Parent/Guardian responsible for my child(ren)'s home child care placement, I agree to the following:

- I have read and understood the above information
- I understand the risk of illness to myself or my child(ren) by participating in a home child care program
- I will follow all pre-screening requirements and will report accurate information daily for all persons screened. Misrepresentation of temperatures may result in the termination of my child care agreement
- I will not administer any medication to my child that may mask the symptoms of illness, such as Tempra, Tylenol , Advil or Benadryl, prior dropping my child off at the home child care premises
- I agree to exclude ALL of my children from the home child care program **immediately** upon observing any of the signs listed in this agreement or symptoms of illness
- In the event of illness, I agree to provide the Agency and the Provider a copy of any test results (positive or negative for COVID-19) and/or clearance by Toronto Public Health prior to returning my child(ren) to the home.

Parent/Guardian Name:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date: _____ **Phone number:** _____

Important health contact information to have on hand

Contact a health care provider, Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000 or Toronto Public Health if you or someone else in your home are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.

Refer to Toronto Public Health's website for information on symptoms, getting tested and self-isolation at <https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/> Toronto Public Health can be reached at 416-338-7600. The Public Health call centre is open 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., 7 days a week.

If symptoms change or worsen, the individual may need to seek medical attention. If the individual has any severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing or chest pain, call 911.

Please retain a copy of this document for your records.