

# Appendix

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### 1. What will happen if a child becomes ill at child care?

- Staff accompanies the child to a separate area to reduce likelihood of spread, and waits with them until the child is picked up from child care.
- Any items or toys used/touched by the ill child will be removed and disinfected per CDC protocol.
- As soon as possible, common surfaces or items which can't be moved should be disinfected, and if feasible, ventilation of space should be increased.
- Once children leave, the area should be thoroughly cleaned per CDC protocol.
- Children within same consistent group should be administered two temperature checks daily and increased vigilance for symptoms.

### 2. When should children within a consistent group be sent home?

- Each scenario is unique. Determination of whether a consistent group will be sent home will be determined in consultation with RIDOH.

### 3. When can a symptomatic child or staff member return to their child care?

Symptomatic: Parent/guardian may attest (staff may self-attest) that return to child care criteria have been met.

Symptomatic individual who is not a probable case or probable case and test negative may return to child care when:

- 24 hours fever free (without use of fever medication) and
- Symptoms improved (back to usual health)

Test-positive

Must meet the CDC guidelines for ending isolation before returning to child care

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>

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### **4. What if a probable case refuses testing?**

- A probable case should be tested. If they test negative, they can return to child care. If they test positive, they will follow the CDC symptom-based strategy for release from isolation. 24 hours fever-free and symptoms have resolved and it has been 10 days since symptoms first appeared. If they refuse to test, they will be required to follow the same symptom-based strategy; they cannot return sooner.

### **5. When can an asymptomatic (without symptoms) child or staff member who is a close contact of an individual with COVID-19 return to child care?**

- Children or staff who are in close contact with an individual with COVID-19 should quarantine for 14 days from last exposure to the infected individual before returning to child care. They cannot be released early from quarantine with a negative test; they must complete the full 14 days.

### **6. If you screen someone at the door and they are symptomatic (with symptoms), does the screener need to quarantine?**

- No, a brief screening at the door does not qualify as close contact. See glossary (page 42) for definition of 'close contact'.

### **7. Under what circumstances should a child care classroom or facility be closed?**

- The decision to close a classroom or a facility will be made on a case-by-case basis in consultation with RIDOH and DHS.

### **8. Who informs child care provider of a positive test result?**

- If a child, parent/guardian, or staff, tests positive, RIDOH will inform the child care provider as soon as possible.

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### **9. Where can parents/guardians obtain relevant resources on where to seek medical advice?**

- A child's medical provider can assess the need for testing and schedule testing when needed.
- If a child does not have a regular medical provider, a child care staff member may provide a list of medical providers in their community.
- The parent/guardian can call a local health care center or a respiratory clinical listed on the RIDOH website. <https://health.ri.gov/covid/testing/>

### **10. If a child care class or facility is closed due to an outbreak, how long will it be closed?**

- The decision to reopen a classroom or a facility will be made on a case-by-case basis in consultation with RIDOH and DHS.

### **11. Can a parent/guardian send a child to another child care if current child care is closed due to an outbreak?**

- After completing RIDOH-recommended quarantine or isolation, a child may attend another child care facility.

### **12. Does a staff or child who tested positive need a negative test to return to child care?**

- No, a test is neither required nor recommended. A person who tested positive can return to child care when they have been 24 hours fever-free AND symptoms have resolved AND it has been 10 days since symptoms first appeared (10 days since the person if asymptomatic). A person is no longer infectious if they have met this isolation criteria. RIDOH/CDC does not recommend a positive person obtain another test within 90 days since testing positive.

# Glossary

Term	Definition
Close contact	Contact between two people of < 6ft for more than 15 minutes. Data are insufficient to precisely define the duration of time that constitutes a prolonged exposure. Recommendations vary on the length of time of exposure, but 15 minutes of close exposure can be used as an operational definition. Brief interactions are less likely to result in transmission; however, symptoms and the type of interaction (e.g., did the infected person cough directly into the face of the exposed individual) remain important.
Consistent/stable group	Each staff/child will be placed into "consistent/stable groups" of no more than 20 people and each group must physically distance themselves from other consistent groups. Child care centers may have multiple consistent/stable groups, while family child care homes only have one consistent/stable group.
Contact tracing	Process of identifying individuals who may have had close contact (see definition above) with someone who tested positive for COVID-19
COVID-19	Abbreviation for the disease caused by the novel coronavirus SARS Cov-2
DHS	Rhode Island Department of Human Services
Isolation	Process of separating individuals who are infected with COVID-19 from others
Protocol	Recommended actions to follow in the event that an outbreak of COVID-19 occurs
Probable case	Individual who has at least two of the following symptoms: fever, chills, rigors, myalgia, headache, sore throat, new olfactory and taste disorder(s), OR at least one of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing
Quarantine	Process of separating and restricting the movement of individuals who were in close contact with someone who tested positive or had symptoms of COVID-19. Separation/restriction of movement: 14-days from the last exposure to the person who tested positive for COVID-19.
RIDDH	Rhode Island Department of Health
Screening	Checking individuals for symptoms of COVID-19 verbally and by using temperature checks
Symptomatic individual	Individual who is showing the symptoms or signs of COVID-19 according to <a href="#">CDC guidelines</a>
Testing	Two types of tests are available for COVID-19: viral tests and antibody tests. Viral tests indicate if you have a current infection (most common) while antibody tests indicate a previous infection. Throughout this document, "testing" refers to the viral test to diagnose a person with COVID-19.