

Pandemic Care- Isolation Protocol and Reporting for Symptomatic Persons

Revised: 1st December 2020

To ensure the health and well-being of children attending Brason Academy Montessori School, children and staff who become ill while attending the program will be required to leave the program.

Staff must assess the situation to determine the need for when a child needs to be picked up by the parent. This can be determined through either the noticeable onset of symptoms, or from the mid-day screening activity. Staff will self-monitor their own health throughout the day. Close contact is defined as being less than 2 meters apart from someone for a cumulative time of more than 15 minutes during a shift.

Protocols When a Child or Staff Demonstrates Symptoms of Illness or Becomes Sick

The teachers are to conduct surveillance and record all illnesses (respiratory and enteric) in the centre. The supervisor/designate is to report to Region of Waterloo Public Health when any staff or child exhibits COVID-19 symptoms while in the child care facility in accordance with the Table above.

Symptoms and signs to look for include but are not limited to:

- Fever
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Sore throat or difficulty swallowing
- Runny nose or nasal congestion
- Red eyes (conjunctivitis)
- Nausea/vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain
- New loss of taste or smell
- Headache and a general feeling of being unwell
- Tired or sore muscles, chills
- Headache and lethargy or difficulty feeding in infants (if no other diagnosis).

Children should be monitored for atypical symptoms and signs of COVID-19. For more information, please see the symptoms outlined in the 'COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms' on the Ministry of Health's COVID-19 [website](#).

Confirmed cases should generally not be re-tested if they develop new symptoms after their COVID-19 infection resolves. If a child or staff was a confirmed case and then develops symptoms after a new exposure to a confirmed case or travel, however, should be reported to Public Health [via the online reporting form](#) for advice regarding testing and isolation.

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Staff COVID-19 Symptomatic

- If a staff member becomes ill while at the centre they should let their supervisor know, and remove themselves from program as soon as possible. Staff should be advised to get tested.
- The supervisor or designate will notify Public Health [Region of Waterloo Reporting Form for Symptomatic Staff / Children](#).
- Public Health management will assign a Public Health professional to initiate investigation.
- Staff can contact any testing/assessment centre to book an appointment.
- Public health will provide direction for self-monitoring or self-isolation as determined by the exposure and inform any child care facility-wide measures.

Child COVID-19 Symptomatic

- Any child who develops symptoms of ill health including symptoms of ill health related to COVID-19 must leave the child care program.
- The teacher will notify the supervisor or designate immediately for contact to be made to the parent/caregiver. Pick-up shall be arranged for the child. If the parent cannot be reached, the emergency contact person will be contacted to pick up the child.
- While waiting to be picked up, the child should be isolated from all other staff and children, except for the teacher looking after the child.
- Where possible, anyone who is providing care to the child should maintain a distance of at least 2 metres while following provincial guidelines. The teacher should also wear gloves in addition to their mask and eye protection while supervising a symptomatic child. If tolerated and above the age of 2, the child should wear a surgical/procedure mask.
- Contaminated articles belonging to the symptomatic child (including soiled clothing) are sent home immediately for cleaning. Do not rinse or launder at the centre, roll and place items separately in a sealed plastic bag (take care not to contaminate the surrounding environment).
- The supervisor or designate will notify Public Health in accordance with the Table above through the [Region of Waterloo Reporting Form for Symptomatic Staff / Children](#).

Once the child and siblings have been picked up, the child care provider will remove and dispose of PPE, according to the [Public Health Ontario Don/Doffing PPE Fact Sheet](#)

- Reusable PPE such as a blanket, cloth or lab coat , if used, should be laundered immediately.
- The Supervisor will contact Region of Waterloo Public Health through the [Region of Waterloo Reporting Form for Symptomatic Staff / Children](#) to notify them of a potential case and seek input regarding the information that should be shared with other parents of children in the child care centre. The supervisor will follow all direction provided by Public Health. The following information will be shared with Public Health:
 - a. Child care centre name, address, contact person, phone number and e-mail

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- b. Child’s name, date of birth, and name of parent/guardian
- c. Child and parent/guardian’s contact information

Cleaning Post-Symptomatic Child

Cleaning will include disinfection of all toys and surfaces including tabletops, chairs, washrooms, cots, and equipment with which the child interacted and not just in the isolation room.

All linens and bedding touched/used by the symptomatic child at the centre must be laundered immediately.

- Staff must use appropriate PPE when handling dirty laundry (e.g., gloves, eye protection apron etc.).
- Items unable to be disinfected will either be disposed of or quarantined in a storage area for a minimum of 7 days.

General Approach to Isolation, Testing and Closure in the Centre- Table 1

Symptomatic Child/Staff

Case Details	Guidance for children and staff in the same group and other close contacts at the child care centre
<p>Symptomatic child/staff undergoing testing with NO KNOWN exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close contact with a COVID- 19 case • Travel outside of Canada within 14 days prior to symptom onset • Been told by a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit to self-isolate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-monitor while awaiting test results or physician assessment of the symptomatic child/staff • If test of symptomatic child/staff is positive for COVID-19, Public Health will provide direction. Children and staff in the same group and other close contacts of the confirmed case while the case was infectious must self-isolate for 14 days from their last exposure to the case. If grouping was appropriately practiced, the child care centre may remain open for those who were not exposed. If there was no grouping, the child care centre must be closed

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<p>Symptomatic child/ staff undergoing testing with KNOWN exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close contact with a COVID- 19 case • Travel outside of Canada within 14 days prior to symptom onset <p>Been told by a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit to self-isolate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a situation where a child had a known exposure, public health will provide direct guidance. Generally, children and staff in the same group and other close contacts will require self-isolation while awaiting results of the symptomatic child. • If test of symptomatic child is positive for COVID-19, Public Health will provide direction. Children and staff in the same group and other close contacts of the confirmed case while the case was infectious must self-isolate for 14 days from their last exposure to the case. If grouping was appropriately practiced, the child care centre may remain open for those who were not exposed. If there was no grouping, the child care centre must be closed
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Confirmed Case

Case Details	Guidance for children and staff in the same group and other close contacts at the child care centre
Confirmed COVID-19 case in a child or staff person	Children and staff in the same group and other close contacts of the confirmed case while the case was infectious must self-isolate for 14 days from their last exposure to the case. If grouping was appropriately practiced, the child care centre may remain open for those who were not exposed. If there was no grouping, the child care centre must be closed

Definitions:

Self-monitor:

- monitor symptoms for 14-days, you may go about your day but are required to avoid crowded public places where you cannot easily physically distance from others. If you develop symptoms, move to self-isolation and contact Public Health.
- Fact Sheet: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/factsheet-covid-19-selfmonitor.pdf?la=en>

Self-isolate:

- Stay at home. Do not use public transit or taxis, do not go to work, school or other public spaces. Avoid contact with others, including visitors (unless essential (such as home care). Avoid close contact with others, if possible in the same household to minimize the risk of them getting sick.
- Fact Sheet: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/factsheet-covid-19-howto-self-isolate.pdf?la=en>

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Serious Occurrence Reporting

Brason Montessori will be required to submit serious occurrences to the ministry of education only when a child or staff has a confirmed case of COVID-19. This serious occurrence has to be submitted under the category 'confirmed case of COVID-19' for-

1. A child who attends Brason Montessori
2. A student at Brason Montessori
3. Any teacher or staff at Brason Montessori

In addition to the SO, the confirmed case will also be reported to the Region of Waterloo Public Health. The Public Health Officials will determine any additional steps required as how to monitor for other possible infected staff and children and the declaration of an outbreak and closure of rooms and/or the entire Montessori.

If a closure is ordered by PH and the supervisor has already submitted a SO for a confirmed case, then the existing SO must be updated to reflect the closure.

For any additional confirmed cases, the existing SO should be revised.

