

Pandemic Care- Isolation Protocol and Reporting for Symptomatic Persons

Revised: 8th September 2020

Operating Details

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.

PROCEDURES

- 1) Any child who develops symptoms of ill health including symptoms of ill health related to COVID-19 must leave the program.

COVID-19 symptoms are as defined in the most recent version of the Ministry of Health COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms.

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/2019_guidance.aspx#symptoms

- 2) The childcare 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.
- 3) Symptomatic children are immediately separated from others in a supervised area until they can go home. A childcare teacher from the program room will accompany the child and provide supervision at all times. If the child is over the age of 2 and willing, the child will don a mask. If the symptomatic child has any siblings at the centre they will also be sent home at this time.
- 4) Staff should wear a surgical/procedure mask, eye protection and a gown at all times while supervising a symptomatic child. Every effort should be made for physical distancing to be maintained between the staff and symptomatic child.
- 5) If the child is in a room with other family members from the same household only, the child will not need to be removed from the program room. Efforts will be made to encourage the child to maintain physical distancing from other children and childcare teachers. If the child is over the age of 2 and willing, the child will don a mask.
- 6) Every effort will be made to keep the child comfortable until someone arrives to take him or her home.

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7) Hygiene and respiratory etiquette should be practiced while the child is waiting to be picked up. The designated room should be supplied with either a hand sink with hot and cold running water, liquid soap and single-use paper towels or hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol content. Tissues should be provided to the child for proper respiratory etiquette, with proper disposal of the tissues and proper hand hygiene.

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

9) Reusable PPE such as blanket, cloth or lab coat should be laundered immediately. Clothing and linen from an unwell/infected child can be washed with other laundry.

10) Reusable PPE such as a face shield will be disinfected per the ROW Health and Safety Cleaning PPE Fact Sheet

11) Disinfecting of both the program space and isolation space will be cleaned as per the Covid-19 Pandemic Care Plan- Infection Control Protocol.

12) The supervisor will contact Region of Waterloo Public Health to report a symptomatic person: <https://forms.regionofwaterloo.ca/External/COVID-Response-external/Childcare-Reporting-Symptomatic-Staff-or-Children>

Further direction about isolation and/or testing of others at the centre, advice on control measures to prevent the potential spread, will be provided by Region of Waterloo Public Health. Please refer to **Table 1** below.

Staff Illness

- 1) Any staff person who suspects that they have an infectious disease should not attend the program if they are not well, particularly if their symptoms include any outlined in the most recent Ministry of Health COVID-10 Reference Document for Symptoms. Staff must pass the active screen process to work at the centre.
- 2) 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.
- 3) Staff should be advised to get tested.
- 4) The supervisor or designate will notify Public Health through the 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 childcare facility-wide measures.

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Serious Occurrence Reporting

Effective from 1st September, Brason Montessori will be required to submit serious occurrences for a suspected case of COVID-19 for individuals (staff and children) exhibiting **1 or more symptoms**. This serious occurrence has to be submitted under the category ‘suspected /confirmed case of COVID-19’ when one of the individuals has a confirmed case of Covid-19 **OR** a **suspected** case involving the individual exhibiting **1 or more symptoms** **AND** the individual has been **tested**, or has indicated that they will be tested for COVID-19:

1. A child who attends Brason Montessori
2. A parent of a child who attends Brason Montessori
3. A student at Brason Montessori

A suspected case is defined as any person exhibiting any of the symptoms of ill health as listed in the most recent version of the Ministry of Health COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms.

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/2019_guidance.aspx - symptoms

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

Symptomatic Child/Staff

| Case Details | Isolation/Monitoring Recommendation | How long to exclude from the program |
|---|--|--|
| Symptomatic child/staff undergoing testing with NO KNOWN exposure : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close contact with a case of COVID-19 • Travel outside of Canada within 14 days prior to symptom onset • Lives or works in a facility known to be experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child or staff member self-isolates and gets tested • Anyone who was in close contact should self-monitor | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If test is negative for COVID-19 the child or staff member must be excluded from the program until 24 hours after symptom resolution • If test is positive for COVID-19 the child or staff member must be excluded from the program for 14 days after the onset of symptoms and/or clearance has been received from the local public health unit • If test is refused for COVID-19 the child or staff member must be excluded from the program for 14 days after the onset of symptoms and they are |

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| | | symptom free for at least 72 hours and/or clearance has been received from the local public health unit |
| <p>Symptomatic child/ staff undergoing testing with KNOWN exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close contact with a case of COVID-19 • Travel outside of Canada within 14 days prior to symptom onset • Lives or works in a facility known to be experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child or staff will self-isolate and get tested • Contact public health for guidance regarding management of staff/children in the same group and other close contacts, while awaiting test results of the symptomatic individual | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a situation where a child or staff member had known exposure to a confirmed COVID-19 case, public health will provide direct guidance |
| <p>Confirmed COVID-19 case in a child or staff person</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All close contacts (children, parents, staff) need to self-isolate • If cohorting was appropriately practiced, the centre may remain open for those who were not exposed • If there was no cohorting, the centre must be closed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provider or child must be excluded from the program for 14 days after the onset of symptoms (or from positive test date if consistently asymptomatic) and/or clearance has been received from the local public health unit to discontinue isolation |

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>