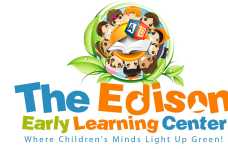


The Edison Early Learning Center

227 Pike Street
 Carbondale, PA 18407
 570-282-5370
 edisonearlylearningcenter@gmail.com



Revised COVID-19 Health & Safety Plan

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What is Covid-19

The Covid-19 virus is an illness which is believed to be transmitted person to person by respiratory droplets released when individuals cough, sneeze, or talk. Surfaces contaminated with the virus are also believed to be a way of transmission once a person touches the surface and then touches one's mouth, nose, or eyes. Our center must therefore plan preventative practices such as health screenings and effective cleaning and disinfection procedures in order to keep our staff and students healthy during this world wide pandemic. Currently, children under the age of 12 are not yet eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine, therefore it is important for our center to continue to follow COVID-19 mitigation recommendations from the CDC and DOH.

Monitoring Symptoms (as per PA DOH guidelines)

Even though children can have mild symptoms when infected with COVID-19, it is best to apply the clinical criteria (provided below) to assess whether a student without any known exposures to COVID-19 might need further evaluation.

Clinical Criteria for COVID-19 Evaluation- Pre-K, Kindergarten, School-Aged Students

1 or more symptoms		2 or more symptoms*
Cough Shortness of breath Difficulty breathing New olfactory disorder New taste disorder		Fever (≥ 100.4 F oral or equivalent) Chills Rigors Myalgia Headache Sore throat Nausea or vomiting Diarrhea Fatigue Congestion or runny nose

***Infant & Toddler Students will meet criteria for a COVID-19 evaluation with 1 symptom due to the fact they can not verbalize myalgia, fatigue, or other illness symptoms**

What happens if a student meets the clinical criteria and is referred to a health care provider for evaluation/testing for COVID-19, but never gets the test?

If the student is evaluated by a healthcare provider and it is determined that symptoms are associated with another illness/infection and they have no known COVID-19 exposures, routine school practices for management of ill students at school should be followed.

A symptomatic child/individual who is not tested for COVID-19 should be excluded until:

- At least 10 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared* **and**
- At least 24 hours have passed *since last fever* without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
- Symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved.

- Physicians note is need and must state the student 'was seen in office'

Ill students who meet the clinical criteria for COVID-19 should be excluded for a minimum of 10 days after illness onset. A student may return when:

- At least 10 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared* **and**
- At least 24 hours have passed *since last fever* without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
- Symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved.

Students who are being excluded and monitored for the start of symptoms because they are close contacts of a case **must** be excluded for 14 days from their last known exposure. *The entire 14-day quarantine time period must be completed and still applies even if the [students receive a negative test result during the quarantine period](#).* Only after the 14-day quarantine period may the student return to school. For household members of a confirmed case, such as a student, that could be at least 24 days since the case developed symptoms. When a case can't separate themselves from the rest of their household, the risk of infecting their household contacts continues during their 10-day isolation period. Because of that ongoing exposure, the quarantine period for the healthy household contact starts at the end of the case's 10-day isolation period. That quarantine period is 14 days after the end of the case's 10-day isolation period, which totals 24 days.

- *Symptoms of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome or Kawasaki Disease will also be screened for, as this syndrome has been linked to COVID-19. These symptoms include: Rash, fever, swelling of hands and feet, irritation & redness of eyes, swollen lymph glands in neck, irritation or inflammation of mouth, lips, and throat.*
- All staff and visitors will be tempted and screened at arrival each day. The director, assistant director, or designated staff will screen staff upon arrival.
- **All students will be tempted at drop-off and if symptoms of illness are observed.** A log will be kept stating if a fever was detected and will be kept on file. Health screenings will be performed, at drop off, by the director, assistant director, or designated staff member.
- Parents & staff will be asked exposure questions at drop-off. These questions will include: Does your child have any symptoms of illness? Has your child tested positive for Covid-19? Has your child been exposed to someone who tested positive or is waiting on results from a Covid-19 test? Has your child traveled to any of Pennsylvania?
- Screenings will be performed outside of the center. If weather does not permit, screenings will be performed in the breezeway of the front entrance of the building.
- Students, staff, and visitors with symptoms and/or fever will be turned away at the health screening area.

- Parents will remain outside of the center, unless fully vaccinated. Please call upon arrival and your child will be brought outside to the parent/caregiver picking up.

Suspected or Positive Case

- Staff will closely monitor children during the day and report any of the above symptoms to the director or assistant director. Parent(s) will be notified immediately if their child shows illness symptoms and the child will be removed from the classroom. The director, assistant director or staff member will remain with the child in the isolation area (hallway or assistant directors office). The staff member is to keep 6 feet of distance from the child, while keeping the child in view. The child and staff member will keep a mask on during this time. This area will be cleaned and disinfected once the child is picked up by a parent or guardian. The parent will pick up their ill child within 15 minutes of notification from the center.
- Any staff member, visitor, or student who has tested positive or showing the above mentioned symptoms of Covid-19 will not be allowed to enter the building.
- **Should a child or staff member test positive for COVID-19 or have COVID-19 symptoms they may return after: 10 days since symptoms first appeared or positive test (if no symptoms), 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing meds, and other symptoms of COVID-19 are not seen or improving (loss of smell or taste may persist for weeks or months)**
- Any staff member, visitor, or student who is waiting on test results for a possible Covid-19 case will not be allowed in the center until the test results are confirmed. Any student or unvaccinated adult of a family member being tested for COVID-10 must remain out until test results are confirmed.

Exposure to a Positive Case

- Any staff member, visitor, or student who has recently had exposure to a person with Covid-19 will not be allowed to enter the building. This person will not be allowed back into the center until a self-quarantine for 14 days is observed. A *potential exposure* means being in a household or having close contact with an individual with a confirmed OR suspected Covid-19 case for at least **15 minutes total over a 24 hour period** & within 6 feet of the case's infectious period or 3 feet if masked for the entire time of exposure. Persons with Covid-19 are considered infectious from 2 days before onset of symptoms until the end of isolation. People testing positive but do not have symptoms are considered infectious 2 days after exposure (if known) or starting 2 days before test date (if exposure is unknown).

You Do Not Need Quarantine if.....

- **You have been fully vaccinated (2 weeks after last vaccine shot and no symptoms of COVID-19)**
- **Someone who has been positively diagnosed with COVID-19 within the past 3 months, has recovered, and remains without COVID-19 symptoms.**

Limited Quarantine Timeline

Due to the CDC recommendation of the need to remain 6 feet apart and wear a mask at all times, until day 14, the CDC's 7/10 day limited quarantine time will not apply to students in the following classrooms; infant, toddler, early preschool, Pre-kindergarten 3 & 4, and Junior Kindergarten. Things we consider in making this decision; these age groups can not be socially distanced throughout the day, students remove masks to eat snack & lunch, students remove masks to nap.

Students enrolled in our Kindergarten & School-Aged Summer Camp may discontinue quarantine on Day 7 if:

- The child was tested 5 days after exposure date
- A negative test result can be presented
- Child has not had any symptoms of illness from the day of exposure to return date
- Is able to wear a mask consistently throughout the school day (removed to eat but will be placed 6 feet from other students)
- Parents continue to monitor illness symptoms daily until day 14

Students enrolled in our Kindergarten & School-Aged Summer Camp may discontinue quarantine on Day 10 if:

- Child has not had any symptoms of illness from the day of exposure to return date
- Is able to wear a mask consistently throughout the school day (removed to eat but will be placed 6 feet from other students)
- Parents continue to monitor illness symptoms daily until day 14

Tracking Illness & Notification

- The director or assistant director will log all cases of illness in the center. Child's name, date, symptoms, return date, and doctor's note received will all be documented in order to track illness within the center. This will be done for all "call-offs" or if a child is sent home with illness symptoms.
- If a student, staff member, or visitor who has had access in the center tests positive for Covid-19, parents and staff members will be notified as soon as possible via the Brightwheel App. Confidentiality will be maintained in regards to name. The center will state if the case was a staff or student, classroom assigned to, and days per week they are at the center.
- If a positive case is reported by a the staff, parent, or visitor, the center will notify the PA Department of Health and the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services Certification Representative and/or the Early Learning Resource Center Region 12 as per 55 Pa, Code 3270, 3280.136, and 3290(s). The authorities will give more guidance on how to move forward.
Department of Health - 1-877-PA-HEALTH Region 12 Early Learning Resource Center- 570-468-8144
- A center wide closure for 2-5 days for cleaning and prevention purposes may be observed.

Social Distancing In The Center

- The desks of the Kindergarten students will remain 3 feet from each other. Students will

wear masks during the day. When students are unmasked, while eating, the desks will be moved as close to 6 feet as possible.

- Kindergarten students will remain with students who sit close to them during center time.
- Students may remove masks during outside play
- Social distancing with younger students (ages 3-5) will be encouraged as much as possible throughout the day
- Parents are asked to remain outside of the classrooms at drop-off and pick-up. If it is necessary to enter the building during drop-off and pick-up, please stand at the doorway and inform the teacher of your arrival.

Face Masks

- All staff members, adults, and students will wear a mask at all times while at the center if over the age of two years old. Students will be allowed to remove masks during eating, drinking, sleeping, and during outdoor recess.
- Teachers will remind students throughout the day to wear masks properly.

Who is Exempt?

- Individuals who cannot wear a mask due to a medical condition, including those with respiratory issues that impede breathing, mental health condition, or disability.
- **Individuals who would be unable to remove a mask without assistance**
- Individuals under two years of age
- Individuals who are communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired or has another disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication
- Individuals are **NOT** required to show documentation that an exception applies.

Cleaning/Sanitation Procedures

Hand Washing

Staff and students' hands will be washed.....

- Upon entering classroom
- Before & After eating
- After diapering/toileting
- After a staff helps a child in restroom
- Any time touch face, nose, mouth or coming into contact with bodily fluid
- Anytime a person touches another person's face, nose, & mouth
- After handling garbage
- After playing outdoors
- Hand sanitizer may be used (70% alcohol) if water is not readily available.
- Hand sanitizer will be kept out of reach of children.
- Staff will assist children with hand washing/sanitizer to ensure proper use.
- Staff will also wash hands after assisting a child with handwashing
- Staff hand's will be washed before meal prep and wear gloves during heating/distribution of food

Cleaning and Use of Toys

- Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized will not be used
- Limit amount of toys per classroom for easy cleaning or rotate toys
- No toys from home! No exceptions!
- Toys that have been in a child's mouth or contaminated by body secretions will be set aside until they are cleaned by hand with a person using gloves.
- EPA recommended bleach solution will be used for sanitizing & disinfecting.
- Toys will not be shared between rooms
- Children's books are not considered a high risk for transmission and therefore do not need to be omitted
- Staff will wash their hands, necks, and anywhere touched by a child's secretions
- Staff will have extra clothes or button-down coverall shirts to prevent soiling of clothing and cross contamination
- Contaminated clothes will be washed in a washing machine

Staff Intensified Cleaning/Disinfection Efforts & Eating Times

- Opening staff will make bleach solutions for assigned classrooms daily. Each classroom will have a spray bottle, utensil container, and toy container.
- Infant, Toddler, and Early Preschool classrooms- Staff will have a set of eating utensils, plates, and cups labeled for each student. Students will not share these items. Disposable items will be used when possible.
- Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and School-Aged classrooms- Staff will use disposable forks & spoons.
- Staff will disinfect all tables and high chairs before and after student use
- Staff will disinfect all chairs after student use and pay special attention to areas student touch

- Staff must follow daily cleaning schedules, which are posted in classrooms
- Staff will pay special attention to disinfecting high touch surfaces such as; doorknobs, light switches, sink handles, countertops, nap cots/cribs, toilets, desks, chairs, cubbies, and changing pads. These surfaces **will be cleaned at nap time and at the end of the day at a minimum** or whenever they have been in high use by students or staff.
- Restrooms will be disinfected after each use. This includes the toilet and sink area. Spray with bleach solution and let sit for two minutes. **Restrooms will be deeply cleaned at nap time and at the end of the day.**
- Cots and cribs will be disinfected after use with Lysol or other disinfecting solution.
- Strollers and bikes will be disinfected after each class use.
- The director/assistant director or designated staff will clean and disinfect staff restroom, common area, Keypad, thermometers, sign in pens, and front door at nap time and at close each day.
- All cleaning materials will be kept secure and out of child's reach as per regulations.
- Cleaning products should not be used around children, and staff should ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using these products to prevent children from inhaling toxic fumes.
- Aerosols, such as lysol spray, will not be used until students are dismissed from the classroom for the day.

Items From Home

- Lunchpails and backpacks may be used although brown paper bags are preferred.
- Parents will send in all food in disposable containers or plastic bags
- Parents will send in bedding, as usual, and it will be sent home weekly to be laundered. Bedding will be kept in individual labeled cubbies and only be used by that child whom they are labeled for.
- Parents will send in a clean mask, if they wish for their child to wear them, each day for their child along with a labeled zip-lock bag for when the mask is not in use.
- Items coming to and from school each day will be limited or eliminated based on the age of classroom, this includes toys and pacifiers. Pacifiers will only be used at nap time.

Traveling

- Staff, students, and visitors are asked to visit www.health.pa.gov and www.cdc.gov when planning a trip and follow all state and federal guidance.
- We ask that parents notify the center of travel outside Pennsylvania so our administration can keep track of illness.

Parental Support

- I understand that if I fail to disclose pertinent information regarding travel, exposure to COVID-19, or do not follow the requirements of this policy and quarantine that my child will be dismissed from The Edison Early Learning Center and I will be required to pay for two weeks tuition, which is required prior to children leaving the center.
- Staff are aware that if he/she fails to disclose pertinent information regarding travel, exposure to COVID-19, or do not follow the requirements of this policy and quarantine he/she will be subject to dismissal and forfeit any acquired vacation or PTO.
- Talk to your child now about these procedures & how school will be a little different
- Talk to them about COVID-19 & how to stay healthy. Stay positive!! Pay attention to what children see or hear on television, radio, or online
- Monitor your child each day for illness
- Keep them home if ill or just not themselves
- Keep them home if someone in your family has been exposed to COVID-19
- Practice social distancing, handwashing, mask coverage at home to keep your family healthy

For tips and resources on talking to your children about Covid-19, visit www.cdc.gov

For questions regarding Covid-19, isolation, and quarantine, please contact DOH at 1-877-PA-Health or www.health.pa.gov

The Covid-19 Health and Safety Plan has been developed, revised (as of August 4, 2021) and approved by Dawn Toolan, the Legal Entity of The Edison Early Learning Center as of July 13, 2020. This plan has been based on recommendations from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Office of Child Development and Early Learning Bureau of Certification. The Covid-19 Health & Safety Plan will be distributed to all parents and staff as of July 15, 2021 (and to all newly enrolled families) and will be included in all new family registration packets and new employee training documents. All new staff will be trained on the policies in this handbook. This handbook will also be available for reference on our website www.edisonearlylearning.org.

Parents and Edison staff will be notified of any addendums or suspensions of the policies and procedures in this manual as deemed necessary by the center's legal entity. Please be aware the pandemic is a fluid situation. The Edison Early Learning Center reserves the right to turn away any person known to be infected or exposed to COVID-19 if these limitations are enacted to keep our students safe.

I understand that by either being employed by or enrolling my child into a program at The Edison Early Learning Center I must abide by the policies and procedures set forth in the Covid-19 Health & Safety Plan. I will do my best to keep the staff, students, and visitors of The Edison Early Learning Center healthy and safe during the current pandemic.

Student Name

Parent/Guardian/Staff Name

Parent/Guardian/Staff Signature

Date