



# **COVID-19**

## **Wood County**

### **Tools for Childcare Providers**

Fall 2020

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## Responding to COVID-19

Childcare centers and family daycares are not only an environment of care and learning, but workplaces for teachers, childcare providers, and other employees. Decisions about how to respond to COVID-19 in the childcare setting will be made to protect both the immediate and long-term health and safety of children, employees, and their families. As students return to school and other activities, there becomes more potential for cases and outbreak situations in childcare.

**The goal of this document is to give information for what you can expect when it comes to COVID-19 and childcare.**

COVID-19 spreads very easily and quickly. Even if everyone is doing everything right, your childcare program may see cases of COVID-19. Types of prevention measures that are utilized and how much COVID-19 is in your community will also impact your childcare program.

**COVID-19 is a new disease. We learn more every day about COVID-19 and the best ways to stop it from spreading.** This can make it very hard for childcare providers and families to know what to do. This document provides public health recommendations to help you make informed decisions about how to protect the children in your care and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Recommendations may change as we learn more about COVID-19. Willingness to adapt to these changes is necessary as we learn more about the best ways to keep children and employees safe and our communities open.

## Symptoms of COVID-19

Call your healthcare provider or local clinic's COVID-19 hotline for further guidance if your child has any of the symptoms of COVID-19, even if the symptom is mild. Testing locations can be found at: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/community-testing.htm>.

Even if they don't have symptoms, children, childcare providers, and other employees need to be very careful and take precautions because children and adults may be asymptomatic and still be able to spread the disease. This means they have no signs or symptoms of the virus but can still give it to others.

**Symptoms of COVID-19 can include:** fever (temperature of 100.4°F or higher, or feeling feverish), cough, shortness of breath, chills, headache, decrease in sense of smell or taste, sore throat, muscle aches and pains, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or runny nose. Symptoms can range from mild to severe.

If you are unable to check a temperature on your child, ask if he or she is feeling feverish (the person's skin may feel hot or be red, or he or she may have chills or be sweaty).

Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [website](#) for a full list of symptoms that may be associated with COVID-19.

## Exclusion from Childcare

Children should be isolated and sent home from childcare immediately if:

- They have taken any medications (for example, ibuprofen, Tylenol) to reduce fever in the last 24 hours.
- They have been diagnosed with COVID-19 by a healthcare provider or tested positive for COVID-19, with or without having symptoms, and have not yet finished their isolation period per public health recommendations.
- Within the last 2 weeks, they have come in close contact with anyone who has COVID-19.

**Or** within the last 24 hours, they have experienced the following symptoms **above their baseline (what is typical for the child):**

- Either cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of smell or taste  
**OR**
- At least two of the following symptoms:
  - Fever (measured or subjective, or chills or rigors)
  - Headache
  - Sore throat
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea

Other symptoms may also require exclusion for a different communicable disease. **Generally, children with fever, diarrhea, or vomiting alone should be sent home for at least 24 hours, even if it is unrelated to COVID-19 infection.**

## COVID-19 Health Screening Checklist for CHILDREN

Person conducting screening should maintain 6 feet of distance from child while asking questions. Questions should be posed to parents of small children; children old enough to understand and answer for themselves may be asked directly. Tool intended to assist programs to screen for COVID-19, but should not replace other communicable disease screening tools or protocols for school programs.

### Part 1

	YES	NO
Has your child been in close contact with anyone who tested positive for COVID-19 or was diagnosed with COVID-19 in last 14 days?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has your child been diagnosed with COVID-19 by a healthcare provider in the last 10 days?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has your child developed any of the following symptoms within the past 24 hours?		
➤ Cough	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Shortness of breath/trouble breathing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ New loss or sense of taste or smell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
➤ Has your child taken medication in past 24 hours to lower temperature (Tylenol, ibuprofen)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**If YES to any question in Part 1, the child should be sent home.**

**If NO to all questions in Part 1, proceed to Part 2.**

### Part 2

**Has your child developed any of the following symptoms within the last 24 hours?**

	YES	NO		YES	NO
Sore throat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Headache	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unusual fatigue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Muscle or body aches	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nausea ( <i>sick to stomach</i> ) or vomiting▲	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fever ( $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) or chills ( <i>would indicate fever</i> ) ▲	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Runny nose or nasal congestion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diarrhea▲	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**If YES to 2 or MORE questions in Part 2, child should be sent home.**

**If YES to 0 or 1 question(s) in Part 2, child may remain at facility.**

#### Child to be sent home

- Record child's name, symptoms, and the date symptoms started in your illness log/line list.
- Child should be **immediately sent home** to isolate and should be tested for COVID-19.

Child may remain at facility

Child should wash (or sanitize) hands before having contact with other children or

▲Vomiting, diarrhea, and fever—alone or together—should exclude a child from school. However, they do not necessarily indicate the need to test for COVID-19 or for COVID-19 isolation.

The following pages include a letter that may be used when sending a child home from care related to COVID-19 symptoms.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child is being sent home from childcare due to the following symptoms, which indicate a possible infection with COVID-19:

*One of the following:*

- ☐ Shortness of Breath / Difficulty Breathing
- ☐ Loss of Taste or Smell
- ☐ Cough

*Or two or more of the following:*

- ☐ Fatigue
- ☐ Headache
- ☐ Muscle / Body Aches
- ☐ Sore Throat
- ☐ Nausea
- ☐ Vomiting
- ☐ Diarrhea
- ☐ Congestion / Runny Nose
- ☐ Fever / Chills

We recommend that you seek testing for your child. You can call the COVID line at Aspirus Riverview Hospital and Clinics (1-844-568-0701) or Marshfield Clinic Health System (1-877-998-0880). Your child must remain isolated at home while awaiting test results. We recommend keeping your child away from other household members as much as possible. If other household members have symptoms, they should also be tested and remain at home.

If your child tests positive, the health department will contact you with specific instructions. You will be asked to isolate your child for 10 days since symptoms began and until they are feeling well and fever-free for 24 hours without using fever-reducing medication. We will ask questions about close contacts and provide instructions for them regarding their 14-day quarantine.

If the test is negative, your child can return 24 hours after feeling well and being fever-free without using any fever-reducing medication. If you are unable to get your child tested, they will remain isolated at home for 10 days from the start of symptoms and 24 hours after feeling well and being fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medication.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Wood County Health Department at 715-421-8911.

Sincerely,



Sue Kunferman, RN, MSN



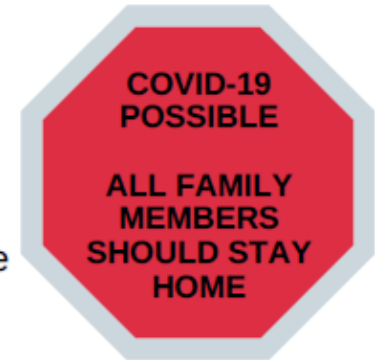
# When does my sick child and other family members need to stay home?

## If anyone in the house has:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste
- New loss of smell

## Or at least 2 of the following:

- Fever
- Body aches
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Chills
- Headache
- Fatigue



## When can we return to school and work?

	Sick person	Household members
Sick individual is diagnosed with a different illness	Follow guidance from medical provider	All well individuals may return to school and work
Sick individual tests negative for COVID-19	24 hours symptom free without using medicine	All well individuals may return to school and work
Sick individual tests positive for COVID-19	10 days after symptoms started AND fever free for 24 hours with other symptoms improving	14 days after last contact with sick person AND do not have any COVID symptoms
Sick individual does not test for COVID-19 and does not have a medical diagnosis of another illness	10 days after symptoms started AND fever free for 24 hours with other symptoms improving	14 days after last contact with sick person AND do not have any COVID symptoms

**Note:** There are other times a child will be required to stay home from school because of potential exposure to COVID. Public Health will provide directions if this happens.

August 2020

## Definitions

**Asymptomatic:** a person is a carrier of a disease and shows no symptoms, but can still spread the disease.

**Close contact:** individuals who have been exposed to COVID-19 in one of the following ways:

- Were within 6 feet of a positive person for more than 15 minutes total in a day.
- Had physical contact with the person (hugging, shaking hands).
- Had direct contact with the respiratory secretions of the person (i.e., from coughing, sneezing, contact with dirty tissue, shared drinking glass, food, or other personal items).
- Lives with or stayed overnight for at least one night in a household with the person.

Close contact criteria apply regardless of mask use, face shields, or physical barriers, such as Plexiglas or plastic barriers, though these can be effective measures at decreasing disease spread.

**Contact tracing:** strategy used to slow the spread of disease by identifying and informing individuals who have been exposed to monitor symptoms, get tested as indicated, and quarantine.

**Isolation:** keeping sick people away from healthy ones. This usually means that the sick person rests in their own bedroom or area of the home and stays away from others. This includes staying home from childcare and school.

**Physical distancing:** also known as social distancing. Keeping 6 feet of space between yourself and others. Can be accomplished by avoiding gatherings, such as parties, crowds, and unnecessary visits to stores.

**Quarantine:** separating people who were around someone who was sick, in case they get sick. Quarantine prevents them from accidentally spreading the virus to other people before they even realize they are sick or start having symptoms. Most people who are in quarantine should stay at home and avoid going out or being around other people. This includes staying home from childcare and school.

**Self-monitoring:** Checking yourself for symptoms of a disease.

# Isolation vs Quarantine

## What's the difference?

**Isolation** keeps someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 (even if they have no symptoms) away from others, even in their own home.

### What should you do if you have COVID-19?

- Stay home until
  - 10 days from the start of symptoms, and
  - At least 24 hours of improved symptoms and without a fever greater than 100.4F (without fever-reducing medication)

### What should you do if you tested positive for COVID-19 but don't have symptoms?

- Stay home until 10 days have passed since your positive test

If you live with others, stay in a specific "sick room" or area and away from other people or animals. Use a separate bathroom, if available.

**Quarantine** keeps those who have been in close contact\* with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 away from others to reduce the spread of the virus.

### What should you do if you had close contact with a person who has COVID-19?

- Stay home for 14 days after your last contact with the person who tested positive.
- Check your temperature twice a day & watch for symptoms of COVID-19.
  - Fever greater than 100.4F
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath
  - Chills
  - Headache
  - Loss of taste
  - Loss of smell
  - Sore throat
  - Nausea
  - Vomiting
  - Diarrhea
  - Runny nose
  - Muscle ache
- Stay away from others in your home as much as possible, even if they are also in quarantine.
- Wash your hands often and practice good hygiene.
- Postpone all non-essential medical appointments until your quarantine is over.
- Get tested or call your healthcare provider, if you develop symptoms.

\*An individual within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of at least 15 minutes.




## Positive Cases

People who are tested for COVID-19 will get their test results from the healthcare provider or testing location where their sample was collected. They will also receive guidance from the county health department in which they live and will be asked to provide a list of individuals they had been in close contact in the two days before they got sick or tested positive.

An individual who tests positive should isolate at home and is not allowed to return to childcare/school/work for at least 10 days since they became sick (or if they do not have symptoms but have tested positive, 10 days since they were tested). In some cases, this isolation period may be extended.

The health department will notify the childcare center when a child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 if they have been there during their infectious period (when they are contagious).

Individuals are released from isolation after:

-  At least 10 days have passed since onset of symptoms or a positive COVID-19 test
-  No fever (above 100.4°F) for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication
-  Symptoms are improving or have subsided

## Probable Cases

A child or staff member who **has had contact with a positive case** and **has COVID-19 symptoms** but **does NOT get tested** and is considered a probable case. These cases should be reported to the local health department and will follow the same exclusion criteria and isolation guidelines as a positive case. The health department may also do contact tracing in these cases and quarantine close contacts. Siblings and other household contacts of probable cases should be excluded from care for 14 days since their last exposure to the probable case.

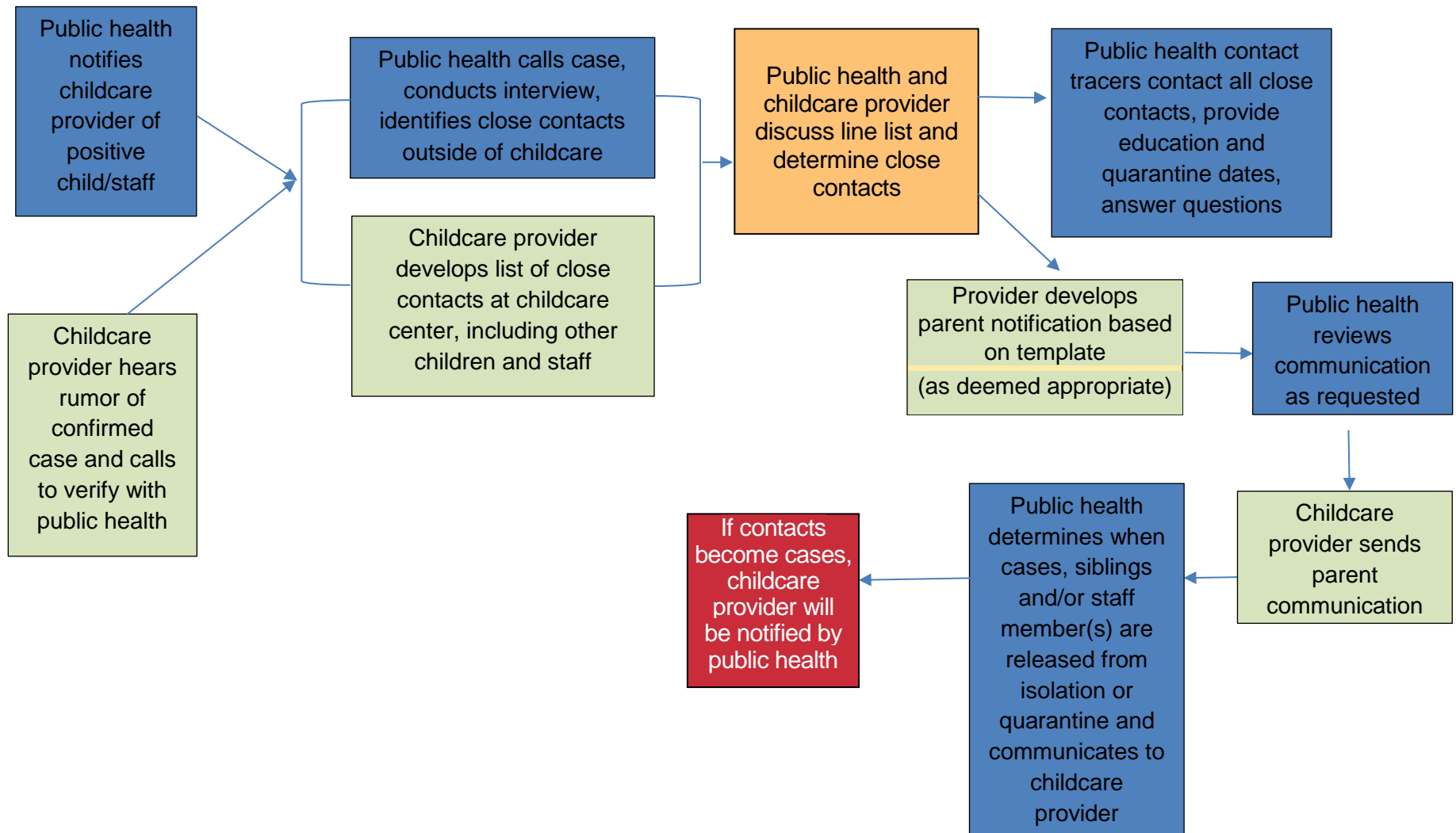
## Suspect Cases

A child or staff member who **has NOT had contact with a positive case** and **has COVID-19 symptoms** but **does NOT get tested** and is considered a suspect case. These cases should follow the same exclusion criteria and isolation guidelines as a positive case. In many cases, siblings and other household contacts of suspect cases should be excluded from care for 14 days since their last exposure to the probable case.

## Contact Tracing in Childcare

If a positive case occurs within childcare, the center will need to work closely with the health department on contact tracing. The childcare director or other assigned personnel collects and provides a list to the health department of children and employees who were in close contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19. The health department will notify children, parents, teachers, and employees if they were exposed to COVID-19. Only children, teachers, or employees who came into close contact with the person who tested positive will be notified of a possible exposure by the health department. People who are identified as close contacts will be asked to quarantine and will not be allowed to attend childcare or school.

## Childcare-Based COVID-19 Positive Case Follow-Up Process



## TEMPLATE LETTER FOR CASE IN CHILDCARE

Date

Dear Parent/Guardian,

A case of COVID-19 has been reported in your child's (school, classroom, daycare). The children and staff who interacted closely with the (child/staff member) during childcare activities has been contacted by public health. The (child/staff member) who has tested positive will be excluded from childcare until they have been determined by the Wood County Health Department to be no longer infectious. Close contacts (those who were within 6 feet of the positive case for greater than 15 minutes during the infectious period) of the positive case will be excluded from childcare/school for 14 days past the date of last exposure and will be monitored for symptoms by their parents/guardians.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a virus that is spread even before individuals show symptoms. Thus, it is ever important for all children and family members to closely watch for symptoms that are outside of their "normal" and stay home if ill. If symptoms occur, please contact your medical provider to request testing or, if testing is not available, remain home until 10 days after symptoms first started and fever-free for 24 hours and symptoms have improved.

Please remember to slow the spread of COVID-19:

1. Stay home when ill.
2. Wear a mask when in public if physically able.
3. Wash hands frequently with soap and water; use hand sanitizer if soap and water are unavailable.
4. Clean frequently used surfaces such as door knobs, tables, etc.
5. Limit unnecessary travel, events or large gatherings.

We all need to continue to do our part to slow the spread and keep our children and families safe. Please contact (childcare contact person) at \_\_\_\_\_ for more information.

You may also contact the Wood County Health Department with questions at 715-421-8911.



## COVID-19 Area Testing Facilities

\*\*\*Please **call ahead** to ANY facility before presenting to be tested for COVID-19.\*\*\*

### Aspirus Riverview Hospital and Clinics

- COVID-19 Helpline: 1-844-568-0701
- 7am-7pm Monday Through Friday, 8am-5pm Saturday-Sunday
- Will do drive-up testing, but need to call and set up an appointment with the helpline first.

### Ascension Medical Group

- Ascension Wisconsin COVID-19 Toll-Free Helpline: 1-833-981-0711
- Online Screening: <https://healthcare.ascension.org/covid-19>

### Marshfield Clinic Health System

- COVID-19 Helpline (24/7): 1-877-998-0880
- Online Screening: <https://www.marshfieldclinic.org/specialties/infectious-diseases/coronavirus-update>
- Will do drive-up testing, but need to call and set up an appointment with the helpline first.

### Wisconsin Health Connect (DHS Online Screening Link)

- <https://www.wihealthconnect.com>
- Free, 24/7, mobile or computer screening.

## Scenario Examples

The following examples are scenarios that may be encountered.

### Scenario 1: A childcare provider tests positive for COVID-19.

Mrs. Watkins works in the toddler room. **She tested positive for COVID-19.**

**She must isolate at home.** She can't go to work until her symptoms start to get better and she has been fever-free for 24 hours without medicine AND it has been at least 10 days since she first had symptoms or tested positive.

**Anyone who lives with Mrs. Watkins must quarantine for at least 14 days.** The health department will tell the people who live with Mrs. Watkins how long to quarantine and if testing may be recommended.

**Mrs. Watkins was at the childcare center 2 days before she got sick and tested positive for COVID-19.** The health department will call the center to tell them Mrs. Watkins tested positive for COVID-19. The childcare director works with Mrs. Watkins to find out who she had been in close contact with, about 6 feet (about 2 arm lengths) for 15 minutes or more. Anyone in close contact with Mrs. Watkins in the 2 days before she got sick or tested positive is instructed to quarantine for 14 days.

**The children who were exposed in Mrs. Watkins' toddler room should quarantine at home for 14 days from the date of exposure.** The child's families do not have to quarantine UNLESS the child who was exposed to COVID-19 develops symptoms or tests positive.

No one else at the center was in close contact with Mrs. Watkins. No other children, teachers, or employees need to quarantine.

### Scenario 2: A child tests positive for COVID-19.

Pearl is a 2-year-old child who attends childcare Monday through Friday. Cole is Pearl's brother. He is a 5th grade student at an elementary school. **Pearl tested positive for COVID-19.**

**Pearl must isolate at home.** She can't go to the childcare center until her symptoms start to get better and she has been fever-free for 24 hours without medicine AND it has been at least 10 days since she first had symptoms or tested positive.

The health department called Pearl's parents and the childcare center to find out who she had been in close contact with, about 6 feet (about 2 arm lengths) for 15 minutes or more. Anyone in close contact with Pearl the 2 days before she got sick or tested positive is instructed to quarantine for 14 days from their last date of contact with Pearl.

**Pearl's brother Cole (and the rest of his family) are instructed to quarantine for 14 days from the last day he is exposed to his sister while she is infectious. This means Cole may need to stay home longer than 14 days.** Even if he doesn't get sick or tests negative for COVID-19, Cole and his family need to finish their quarantine. No one else in Cole's class or his school needs to quarantine. His school does not need to tell other parents, teachers, or employees that Cole's sister tested positive for COVID-19.

**The children who were exposed in Pearl's classes should quarantine for 14 days from the date of exposure.** Their families do not have to quarantine UNLESS the child who was exposed to Pearl gets sick or tests positive for COVID-19.

**Pearl's childcare providers who were exposed must quarantine at home for 14 days from the date of exposure.** The providers' families do not need to quarantine UNLESS the childcare provider (the one they live with) becomes ill or tests positive for COVID-19.

No one else at the center was in close contact with Pearl. No other children, childcare providers, or employees need to quarantine.

### **Scenario 3: A child/childcare employee is exposed to someone in their personal life who tested positive for COVID-19.**

A child/childcare employee named Pat attends/works at a childcare center. The health department called Pat and told them they were a close contact to someone who tested positive for COVID-19. The health department told Pat what to do next, how to quarantine, and when to get tested. Even if Pat tests negative, they must finish their 14-day quarantine.

Pat calls the childcare center to let them know they were exposed to COVID-19 and need to quarantine. Pat quarantines at home and does not go to childcare/school/work. Pat's family does not need to quarantine UNLESS Pat gets sick or tests positive for COVID-19.

#### **Scenario 4: A child/employee lives with someone who was exposed to COVID-19, but the child/employee was not exposed to the person who tested positive.**

A child/employee named Kelly attends/works at the childcare center. The health department calls Kelly's family member (who lives in the same household as Kelly) to tell them they were a close contact to someone who tested positive for COVID-19.

The health department tells the family member what to do next, when their quarantine ends, and when to get tested. The family member should quarantine at home for 14 days from the last time they were in close contact with the person who tested positive.

**Kelly was not in close contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19. Kelly can continue to go to childcare/school/work.** Kelly does not need to quarantine UNLESS her family member becomes sick or tests positive for COVID-19.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Do children have to stay with the same group every day?**

It is highly recommended that groups remain consistent, with the same children and staff together each day.

### **What else can be done to prevent COVID-19 from spreading in a program?**

- Pick-up and Drop-Off
  - o Stagger arrival and drop off times
  - o Consider limiting adult entry to the facility (e.g., staff can be stationed at the front door, where families can drop children off)
  - o Request one family member as the designated person for drop off/pick up
  - o Provide hand sanitizer for adults at sign-in stations
- Cancel the use of volunteers and restrict nonessential visitors from entering the facility
- Post signs on how to stop the spread of COVID-19, properly wash hands, promote everyday protective measures, and properly wear a face covering.

- Cancel field trips requiring transportation, where physical distancing cannot be accommodated, or where shared equipment would be required (e.g., parks)
- Keep children 6 feet apart when possible (arrange the environment to increase the size of learning centers or space materials further apart)
- During rest time, place resting equipment 6 feet apart, including cribs and arrange children head to toe
- Adults and children 5 years and older should wear a face covering whenever in the same room as another person. It is recommended that children over 2 years of age also wear face coverings when in public and unable to maintain physical distance. Children under 2 years old and people who are having trouble breathing should never wear masks.

### **What happens if a child, teacher, or employee tests positive for COVID-19?**

If a child, teacher, or childcare employee tests positive for COVID-19, he or she should isolate right away. This means the person needs to stay at home and away from other people as much as possible. The child, teacher, or childcare employee should not go to childcare, school or work.

People who have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19 are at an increased risk of getting infected and infecting others. Close contact means someone was closer than 6 feet (about 2 arm lengths), for 15 minutes or longer, to a person who has COVID-19. Contact tracing is how public health workers find the close contacts of someone who has COVID-19. Anyone who was in close contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19 should quarantine for 14 days.

### **Will the health department notify the childcare center or daycare provider if a child, teacher, or employee tests positive?**

The health department will notify the childcare center or daycare if a child, teacher, or employee at the center tested positive for COVID-19 if it affects the center (i.e. they were there while infectious, were planning attend/work while now isolated, etc.).

**How long do children, teachers, and childcare employees who test positive have to isolate at home?**

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 should isolate until his or her symptoms get better and he or she has been fever-free for 24 hours without fever reducing medicine AND it has been at least 10 days since he or she first had symptoms or tested positive. Children, teachers, and employees should not go to childcare, school or work until the health department has said they are done with isolation.

**If a child, teacher, or childcare employee tests positive for COVID-19, does he or she need a doctor's note or a negative test result to go back to childcare, school or work?**

No. If a child, teacher, or childcare employee tests positive for COVID-19, the health department will tell the person how long to isolate. If requested, the child, teacher, or employee may obtain a letter noting their release from isolation from the health department.

Studies show people may test positive long after they are infectious. This means a person, who at one time was sick with COVID-19, could still test positive even though he or she can't spread the virus to other people anymore. Requiring a negative test to return to work is not recommended.

**If a child, teacher, or childcare employee tests negative for COVID-19, does he or she need a doctor's note to go back to childcare, school or work?**

No. The health department does not recommend childcare centers, schools or employers require evidence of a negative test result to come back to work. This places a burden on the healthcare and public health systems. If a child, teacher, or childcare employee has been asked by the health department to quarantine for 14 days because he or she was exposed to someone with COVID-19, the person should finish his or her quarantine even if the test result is negative.

**What does a close contact exposure mean in a childcare setting? Does wearing a mask change these parameters?**

A close contact exposure means anyone who had physical contact (hug, kiss, handshake, etc.) or who was closer than 6 feet (about 2 arm lengths) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or longer in one day to the person who tested positive for COVID-19. Sharing of food or beverages that may result in exchange of respiratory secretions is also a close contact.

Wearing a mask reduces the likelihood that the virus will be spread and someone will become ill, however it does not change the quarantine protocol for close contacts. That remains 14 days from the last date of contact with the positive case regardless of mask usage. Anyone who was in close contact with a person who has COVID-19 up to 2 days before he or she had symptoms or tested positive is considered exposed and should be quarantined for 14 days.

If the health department or childcare center staff are unable to determine who was in close contact with the person who tested positive, everyone in the classroom, lunch or free period, extracurricular activity (sports, dances, clubs), or gathering (assemblies, dances) will be considered exposed and will need to quarantine for 14 days.

**Are childcare providers and children in their care exempt from the current Wisconsin mask mandate that extends through September 28, 2020?**

No. Childcare providers and children five years and older are required to wear a face covering while in the same room as others. Children should be given breaks to remove their masks while eating lunch and snacks, during naps, and while playing outside. When the mandate expires, continuation of mask wearing will likely continue to be an important strategy in minimizing the spread of coronavirus.

**How should masks be washed and stored?**

Wash cloth face coverings frequently, ideally after each use, or at least daily. Use regular laundry detergent and a warm or hot water setting. Dry on high heat or lay flat and allow to air dry in sunlight if possible. Do not wear when damp.

Masks should be stored in a space designated for each student that is separate from others when not being worn (e.g., in individually labeled containers or bags, personal lockers, or cubbies). Never share masks.

Consider having additional masks available for students, teachers, and staff in case a back-up mask is needed during the day

**What is the general process for contact tracing and how long do children, teachers, and children employees have to quarantine after being exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID-19?**

When the health department is notified of a positive case, a case interviewer will contact the individual and conduct an interview. The infectious period is calculated and the dates the individual was infectious (able to spread the virus to others) are determined. Close contacts are also determined during that period. The childcare center may also be asked to provide close contact information.

Anyone who had a close contact exposure should quarantine for 14 days from the last time he or she was in close contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19. Public health may recommend a person who was exposed to COVID-19 get tested. However, even if the test is negative, he or she must finish the 14-day quarantine.

If a person who is on quarantine develops symptoms of COVID-19, he or she should isolate and call a healthcare provider right away. It is recommended that he or she be tested for COVID-19.

**If a child is found to be COVID-19 positive or suspected COVID-19 positive, will immediate family members have to quarantine?**

If a child is positive, yes, household contacts would have to quarantine. If they cannot separate themselves in the home somehow, the quarantine would be 14 days from their last contact with the positive child OR 14 days from the date the child is released from isolation (if they are unable to maintain separation from the child in the home).

**What is the shortest duration and the longest duration of quarantine possible?**

Longer quarantine periods are often necessary for households who cannot keep their distance from the positive case while the case is in isolation and infectious. Cases are released from isolation 10 days after symptom onset AND if they were fever-free and feeling better for at least 24 hours. So, the minimum for isolation of a positive is 10 days after symptoms start. If they never had symptoms, they are isolated for 10 days from the date of their test. Household contacts who cannot maintain separation during this time START their quarantine when the positive case is out of isolation and it goes for 14 days from that date. So a person could be quarantined for 24 days. Shorter quarantine periods often occur when a person is tested late in their illness or there is a delay in test results and that person was a close contact several days earlier. The quarantine is 14 days from last exposure to the case, so they could already be several days into that 14-day period when they are notified that they are a close contact.

**Is there a specific number of positive COVID-19 cases that would require a childcare program to shut down?**

Currently, there is no specific number of cases that would cause a childcare program to close. If there are not enough childcare providers to provide adequate staffing (due to isolation, quarantine, illness) a childcare center or part of the center may need to close.

## Help your Families and Employees

This is a stressful time for everyone. Children, parents, caregivers, and employees may not always feel comfortable telling someone they need help. Talk to children, parents, and employees about stress related to COVID-19 and ways to cope with that stress.

## Resources for Families and Employees

Children, parents, caregivers, and employees may need extra help from a professional. You can help them by making sure they know where to find resources. A list of local Safety and Wellbeing resources is included on page 25 of this document. This and other resources are also available in Spanish and Hmong languages on the Wood County Health Department website.

The Center for Healthy Minds, University of Wisconsin-Madison, put together a list of resources to support well-being during the pandemic: [COVID-19 Well-Being Toolkit and Resources](https://centerhealthyminds.org/well-being-toolkit-covid19) found at: <https://centerhealthyminds.org/well-being-toolkit-covid19>

Information about local community resources can be found by calling 2-1-1 or visit <https://211wisconsin.communityos.org/> for a list of resources.

*Other local resources related to COVID-19:*

**Wood County Health Department COVID-19 Dashboard** breaks down Wood County's COVID-19 cases by demographics and school district area:  
<http://woodwi.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/da7f0d6815494e4b85e614e042671b14>

**Wood County Health Department Recovery and Metrics** provides information on where we stand in the three-phased approach to relaxing community mitigation measures currently in place to limit transmission of COVID-19:  
<https://www.co.wood.wi.us/Departments/Health/CovidGatingMetrics.aspx>

## Other Helpful Resources

### Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

- [COVID-19 Updates](#)
- [COVID-19 Childcare](#)

### Wisconsin Department of Health Services

- [COVID-19 Guidance for Schools and Child Care](#)

- Guidelines for the Prevention, Investigation, and Control of COVID-19 Outbreaks in K-12 Schools in Wisconsin
- COVID-19 Badger Bounce Back

#### **Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction guidance for district and school leadership**

- Education Forward, Operating Schools During a Pandemic
- School Health Services Infection Control and Mitigation Toolkit
- Reopening School Buildings Risk Assessment Tool
- Interim COVID-19 Transportation Guidance
- Interim COVID-19 Cafeterias and Food Service Guidance
- COVID-19 Infection Control Checklist for K-12 Schools

#### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Resources**

- K-12 Schools and Child Care Programs
- Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility (including alternative disinfection methods)

#### **Wisconsin Tomorrow: An Economy for All**

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation has a well-constructed economic recovery strategy found here: [https://wedc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Wisconsin Tomorrow Single Page Layout.pdf](https://wedc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Wisconsin_Tomorrow_Single_Page_Layout.pdf)

#### **American Academy of Pediatrics**

- Guidance for School Re-entry

#### **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

- Approved disinfectants against COVID-19

# Safety and Wellbeing

Resources for domestic abuse, mental health, substance use and crises during these challenging times. In the event of an emergency, call 911.

## LOCAL RESOURCES

### Aspirus COVID-19 Call Center

- [www.aspirus.org/coronavirus-covid19](http://www.aspirus.org/coronavirus-covid19)
- 715-422-9319

### Love INC of South Wood County

- [www.loveincswc.org](http://www.loveincswc.org)
- Call 715-424-LOVE (5683) to connect with a volunteer for assistance, guidance, love and hope

### Marshfield Clinic Health System - Community Connections Team

- [www.communityhealth.marshfieldclinic.org/en/Community-Connections](http://www.communityhealth.marshfieldclinic.org/en/Community-Connections)
- Call 715-221-8400 for assistance with basic needs

### Marshfield Clinic Health System - COVID-19 Helpline

- [www.communityhealth.marshfieldclinic.org](http://www.communityhealth.marshfieldclinic.org)
- 1-800-782-8581

### Personal Development Center

- [www.pdcmarshfield.org](http://www.pdcmarshfield.org)
- Call 715-384-2971 to be connected with an advocate for domestic abuse support and resources

### Three Bridges Recovery, Inc.

- [www.threebridgesrecoverywi.com](http://www.threebridgesrecoverywi.com)
- Call 715-424-0403 to be connected with peer-based recovery support services
- Free Narcan delivery available for anyone who requests it

### United Way's 2-1-1

- [www.221.org](http://www.221.org)
- Call 2-1-1 or 877-947-2211 to connect with a resource specialist who can link you with resources to meet your needs

### Wisconsin Rapids Family Center Crisis Line

- [www.familyctr.org](http://www.familyctr.org)
- Call 715-421-1511 to be connected with an advocate for domestic abuse support and resources

### Wood County Crisis Intervention Hotline

- Wisconsin Rapids and surrounding areas 715-421-2345
- Marshfield and surrounding areas 715-384-5555

## STATEWIDE & NATIONAL RESOURCES

### Crisis Text Line

- [www.crisistextline.org](http://www.crisistextline.org)
- Text HOME to 741741 to connect with a crisis counselor

### National Domestic Violence Hotline

- [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)
- Call 1-800-799-7233 or TTY 1-800-787-3224 to connect with an advocate

### Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Disaster Distress Helpline

- Call 1-800-985-5990 to connect with a crisis counselor
- TEXT: "TalkWithUs" to 66746

### Suicide Prevention Lifeline

- Call 800-273-TALK (8255) to connect with a counselor

### The Trevor Project

- [www.thetrevorproject.org](http://www.thetrevorproject.org)
- Call 1-866-488-7386 to connect with a counselor
- Text START to 678678

### Wisconsin Addiction Recovery Helpline

- Call 2-1-1 or 833-944-4678 to connect with a resource specialist who can help with substance use treatment and recovery services

If you have questions or immediate needs related to COVID-19, call 2-1-1 or text COVID-19 to 211-211



For up-to-date information, please visit [www.co.wood.wi.us](http://www.co.wood.wi.us)

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