COVID-19 addendum to the DCCCC Health Policy in the Family Handbook

Children with any symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19 must stay at home until the conditions below are met.

Children with a temperature of 100.4°F oral temperature (99.4°F contactless or underarm) or higher will not be admitted to the Center until the fever is not present for 24 hours without the use of fever reducers **regardless of lack of other symptoms or testing for COVID-19**. If a fever develops during the day, parents will be asked to pick up their child immediately.

Children who exhibit other symptoms (runny nose, sore throat, persistent cough or sneeze, difficulty breathing, body aches, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, unusual fussiness -see definitions below) will not be admitted or will be sent home and can return when **all** of the following are true:

1) The child has had a negative test and  
2) the child has been fever free without a fever reducer for 24 hours and  
3) the symptoms are improving

**OR**

a 10-day quarantine if you prefer not to have your child tested.

This is a change from our previous protocol. This change is occurring because of the increase of cases in our area – we need to increase our vigilance accordingly.

Children can attend childcare after a negative COVID test as long as the presenting symptom is improving (e.g. runny nose) until such time as the symptom worsens or other symptoms develop. If symptoms worsen or other symptoms develop, the child will be excluded again with the same parameters for return.

Definitions:

**Diarrhea** - more than 2 watery, less formed stools (deviating from the normal pattern) not associated with a diet change or medication.  
**Vomiting** – one unexplained episode of vomiting while at the Center (examples of explanation: choking, excessive crying, injury, etc).  
**Runny Nose** – nose needs to be wiped more than 2 times every half hour unless explained by other natural reasons (e.g. coming in from outside, crying, etc.)  
**Persistent cough or sneeze** – cough or sneeze that is not explained by natural causes or does not subside quickly  
**Fatigue** – unable to participate in classroom activities, lethargy  
**Unusual fussiness**- fussiness above and beyond what is normal for an individual child  
**Difficulty breathing** – includes respiratory congestion, wheezing or raspy breathing, rapid shallow breathing