

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. If a fever develops during the day, parents will be asked to pick up their child immediately. If a child had a fever the following must be met in order to return: a negative Covid test **and** the fever is not present for 24 hours without the use of fever reducers.

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.

*During this time of seasonal change, an occasional runny nose is not reason for dismissal unless combined with another symptom such as a cough or sore throat.

Children can attend childcare after a negative COVID test as long as the presenting symptom is improving 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 – the only time that a runny nose will be a stand alone reason for exclusion is if the nose is running constantly without stop.

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