

Responding to Children tested positive for COVID-19

Procedure: The program will develop and implement written procedures for identification of children tested positive for COVID 19 in order to protect the health of all children and staff. Parents and staff will be informed of PCDC guidelines for positive individuals.

Definitions:

- **Case**---a person who has tested positive for COVID 19.
- **Close Contact**---someone one who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual five-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes). An infected person can spread SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID 19, starting from two days before they have any symptoms (or for asymptomatic patients, two days before the positive specimen collection date), until they meet criteria for discontinuing home isolation.
- **Incubation period**---the time it takes to develop infection after exposure to a virus. For COVID 19, this period ranges from two to 14 days.
- **Infectious period**---the period of time a person with COVID-19 can spread the virus to others. It includes the two days before a person has symptoms through at least 10 days after symptoms start. For a person without symptoms, the infectious period is two days before the date the person tests positive for COVID-19 and until at least 10 days after. A person may be infectious with COVID-19 for longer if they are immunocompromised or have severe illness.
- **Isolation**---when a person who tests positive for COVID-19 stays at home and away from others, even those living in the same home. This prevents them from spreading the disease to others. The isolation period for COVID-19 is 10-14 days from the start of symptoms, or from the test date if the person has no symptoms, and until 24 hours without fever, without using medication that reduces fever, and until symptoms have improved. The period could be longer if a person's symptoms do not improve, or the person is immunocompromised.
- **Quarantine**---when a person who is in close contact of someone with COVID-19 stays at home and away from others for up to 5-10 days to avoid spreading COVID-19 during the incubation period when they could become ill.

Procedure: PCDC staff will respond to all children who test positive for the COVID-19 to keep all children and staff safe.

- Management staff encourage any children and staff who are sick to stay home if they are ill and emphasizing to all families the importance of knowing the symptoms of COVID-19.
- Children who have COVID-19 symptoms (i.e., fever, cough, or shortness of breath, etc.) should notify their PCDC staff (teachers) and stay home.
- Emphasize to staff/parents the importance of notifying PCDC staff (teacher and family advocate) if their child becomes sick and then follow VDH and CDC guidelines for what to do if they show symptoms of COVID-19.
- Children who appear to have symptoms upon arrival at school or who become sick during the school day should immediately be separated from other staff, children, and visitors, and sent home.
- Children that **test positive for COVID-19** should follow VDH and CDC recommended steps. Children should isolate for 10 days and should not return to school until all symptoms are gone. A negative COVID-19 test will not be required after 10 days have passed.
- Children who are home for **exposure quarantine** may return after 5 days but must have proof of a negative COVID-19 test, otherwise they must quarantine up to 10 days and may return if no symptoms.
- Children who have no sign of symptoms but who have a **family member at home that test positive for COVID-19** should notify their Teacher/Family Advocate immediately. They should quarantine for 5 days and must have a negative COVID-19 test (documentation shared with the teacher or family advocate) before returning to the classroom. The test should be administered by an approved testing center or healthcare provider (CVS, Walmart, Med Express, Physician's office). If a subsequent family member test positive the quarantine days restart.
- If a site or building is exposed to COVID-19 it will be closed and deep cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected prior to reopening.
- PCDC will follow all VDH and CDC Guidelines.
- Each positive occurrence will be reported to Licensure within 24 hrs. of notification.