

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Guidance for Child Care Centers March 2020

Preparing for Potential Infection in West Virginia Communities

Since February 2020, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health has been following an increase in the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the U.S. The Bureau for Public Health monitors Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updates, hospital admissions, and other data to determine the potential risk to citizens in West Virginia from the virus.

COMMON SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath

PERSON-TO-PERSON TRANSMISSION

- Occurs via small droplets from the nose or mouth of the infected person when they cough, sneeze, or exhale.
- Maintain 2 meter (6 ft) distance between yourself and anyone coughing or sneezing.
- Stay home if you feel sick. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance.

PREVENTION

- Isolating sick and diagnosed individuals.
- Encourage proper handwashing.
- Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces.
- Educate parents and staff about COVID-19.
- Discourage sharing food, drinks, etc.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH GUIDELINES

- 64 CSR 21 Section 10.4 — Child Care Center Rule: No staff member affected with any disease in a communicable form including a respiratory infection shall work in any capacity in which there is a likelihood of the staff member transmitting the disease to other persons. In family day care facilities, appropriate measures shall be taken to protect staff and children from the direct or indirect transmission of diseases from non-staff household members.

HAND WASHING

- Children must wash hands before meals and snacks, after visiting the toilet room, after activity/play time and any other time when hands are soiled.
- Staff must wash their hands frequently while attending to children, after changing diapers, before eating or performing any food related function and after visiting the toilet room or assisting children in toileting activity.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

- Clean and disinfect toys daily and any time the toys become soiled.
- Clean and disinfect shared and common surfaces after activity time and as part of a daily routine cleaning.
- The staff shall employ universal precautions for protection from disease or infection.
- Spills of body fluids, which include urine, feces, blood, saliva, nasal discharge, eye discharge, and injury or tissue discharges, shall be cleaned up immediately.

EFFECTIVE DISINFECTANTS

- **Chlorine Bleach:** Mix and use the chlorine solution promptly. Allow 1 minute of contact time and then rinse with water.
- **1000 ppm:** 1/3 cup bleach in 1 gallon water. Use for stainless steel, food/mouth contact items, tile floors, nonporous surfaces, counters, sinks and toilets.
- The American Chemistry Council Center for Biocide Chemistries has developed a list of cleaning products that are expected to be effective against the virus that causes COVID-19.
<https://www.americanchemistry.com/Novel-Coronavirus-Fighting-Products-List.pdf>.

For additional information on COVID-19, please visit our webpage at: www.coronavirus.wv.gov

Questions and concerns can also be directed to the 24/7, toll-free COVID-19 information hotline at 1-800-887-4304