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# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD



Connecticut Office of  
Early Childhood

Beth Bye  
Commissioner

DATE: March 26, 2021 REVISED June 2, 2021 REVISED January 3, 2022 **REVISED January 13, 2022**

TO: Providers of Services to Young Children

FROM: Beth Bye, Commissioner

RE: **Conoravirus Memo 37 REVISED**  
Quarantine and Isolation Guidance for Individuals who work in Child Care, Youth Camp, Birth To Three And Home Visiting Programs Serving Children

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| REVISION June 2, 2021     | Added reference to Choosing Safer Activities; updated adult masks required for indoors only  |
| REVISION January 3, 2022  | Updated recommended guidance for isolation and quarantine period   |
| REVISION January 13, 2022 | Changed title to include quarantine and isolation; removed information pertaining to vaccine requirement as this is covered in Memo 45; updated recommended guidance for isolation and quarantine period; updated reporting of positive COVID-19 cases |

The chart below provides guidance to child care providers when enrolled children or staff have COVID-19 symptoms, have been notified of a close contact with a person who has tested positive with COVID-19 and/or have tested positive for COVID-19. Programs should follow this guidance to determine isolation and quarantine periods for children and staff and remember the following:

- **Isolation** means to separate sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.

- Quarantine means to separate and restrict the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.
- A close contact is someone who was less than 6 feet away from an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period.
- A person who tests positive using a home test should be considered to be infected with COVID-19 and does not need to confirm such test result with a laboratory test unless otherwise instructed by a health care provider.
- The testing of children shall not be administered by program staff but rather the child's parent or guardian.
- **For children under 3 years old, isolation or quarantine periods of 10 days** shall be observed as outlined in the table below. For older children and staff, a program shall consider an individual's ability to wear a mask consistently and correctly during any activities when around others (excluding while eating and sleeping) when deciding whether the isolation or quarantine period shall be reduced from 10 days to 5 days.
- If the conditions for isolation have been satisfied, it is not necessary that a child or staff who tested positive be required to demonstrate a negative test prior to their return to the program.
- Programs may establish and put in writing more stringent rules than those outlined in the chart below.
- Reporting Positive Cases: Programs required to report cases of COVID-19 to the Connecticut Department of Public Health will now do so, in lieu of calling, by submitting weekly non identifiable information on the total number of enrolled children and staff that have tested positive for COVID-19 on either a self test or a laboratory test using a form found at <https://forms.office.com/g/H09DZsL3Zt>
  - No individual case information (names, DOBs, etc...) needs to be reported
  - Report non identifiable data by close of business Tuesday of each week
  - Report total number of enrolled children and total number of staff that tested positive in the previous week (Sunday-Saturday)
- A program may reach out to their local health department for assistance with implementing this guidance.

|   | Individuals (e.g staff or children) <b>with any COVID-19 symptoms</b>   | Individuals (e.g. staff or children) <b>with no COVID-19 symptoms</b>   |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>If fully vaccinated</b> against COVID-19<br/>(defined as two weeks after second dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or first dose of Johnson &amp; Johnson vaccine)</p>                          | <p><b>Isolate</b> at home.</p> <p><b>Test</b> for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site).</p> <p>If test result is <b>negative</b>, return to activities when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved.</p> <p>If test result is <b>positive</b>, isolate for at least 5 days, return to activities on day 6 or later when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved.</p> <p><b>Wear a mask</b> at all times when around others for an additional 5 days (i.e., through day 10).</p>   | <p><i>If notified of a close contact with a COVID-19 case:</i></p> <p><b>Continue</b> with work/daycare attendance.</p> <p><b>Test</b> for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site) 5 days after the exposure.</p> <p><b>Consider quarantining</b> for 5-days from other activities outside of work, especially if notified of an <b>extended</b> high-intensity exposure (e.g., household contact, unmasked social contact, contact during athletic activities).</p> <p><b>Wear a mask</b> at all times during any activities when around others for 10 days.</p>  |
| <p>If only <b>partially vaccinated</b> (one dose of a two dose COVID-19 vaccine or within two weeks of final dose)<br/>or<br/><b>Unvaccinated</b><br/>or<br/>Vaccination status is <b>unknown</b></p> | <p><i>If notified of a close contact with a COVID-19 case:</i></p> <p><b>Isolate</b> at home for a minimum of 5 days since last exposure to the COVID-19 case.</p> <p><b>Test</b> for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site).</p> <p>Return to activities on day 6 or later when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved.</p> <p><b>Wear a mask</b> at all times during any activities when around others for an additional 5 days (i.e., through day 10).</p> <p><b>NOTE: Children under the age of three shall isolate at home for a minimum of 10 days</b></p> | <p><i>If no known close contact with a COVID-19 case:</i></p> <p><b>Isolate</b> at home.</p> <p><b>Test</b> for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site).</p> <p>If test result is <b>negative</b>, return to activities when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved.</p> <p>If test result is <b>positive</b>, isolate for at least 5 days after symptoms began, return to activities on day 6 or later when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved, and <b>wear a mask</b> at all times during any activities when around others for an additional 5 days (i.e., through day 10).</p>   |
|   |   | <p><i>If notified of a close contact with a COVID-19 case:</i></p> <p><b>Quarantine</b> at home from work, daycare and other activities for 5 days from the last exposure to the COVID-19 case.</p> <p><b>Test for COVID-19</b> (either self-test or at a testing site) 5 days after the exposure.</p> <p><b>Wear a mask</b> at all times during any activities when around others for an additional 5 days (i.e., through day 10).</p> <p><b>NOTE: Children under the age of three shall quarantine at home for a minimum of 10 days since last exposure to the COVID-19 case and return to activities on day 11 or later when fever-free for at least 24 hours and other symptoms are significantly improved.</b></p> |

since symptom onset or positive test, if no symptoms, and return to activities on day 11 or later when fever-free for at least 24 hours and other symptoms are significantly improved.

NOTE: Children under the age of three shall isolate at home for a minimum of 10 days since symptom onset or positive test, if no symptoms, and return to activities on day 11 or later when fever-free for at least 24 hours and other symptoms are significantly improved.

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