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Governor
 Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

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, **REVISED January 24, 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
REVISION January 24, 2022	Updated to confirm isolation and quarantine information is recommended guidance, not mandated requirements; extended option to quarantine and isolate for 5 days vs. 10 to children as young as two years old

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 should not be administered by program staff but rather the child's parent or guardian.
- **Children under 2 years old should not wear masks and so isolation or quarantine periods of 10 days** should be observed in all cases as outlined in the table below.
- **For children 2 years old and older and staff in child care programs**, a program shall consider an individual's ability to wear a mask consistently and correctly (i.e., a well-fitting mask worn directly on the face that completely covers the nose and mouth) during any activities when around others (excluding while eating and sleeping) when deciding whether the isolation or quarantine period should be reduced from 10 days to 5 days.
 - The general OEC mask requirement does not apply for children until 3 years old; however if the isolation or quarantine period is reduced to 5 days as outlined in the below chart, the individual (who may be as young as 2 years old) should wear a mask consistently and correctly for an additional five days at all times (except when eating or sleeping) when around others.
- 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) with any COVID-19 symptoms	Individuals (e.g. staff or children) with no COVID-19 symptoms	
<p>If fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (defined as two weeks after second dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or first dose of Johnson & Johnson vaccine)</p>	<p>Isolate at home.</p> <p>Test for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site).</p> <p>If test result is negative, return to activities when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved.</p> <p>If test result is positive, 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>Wear a mask 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>Continue with work/daycare attendance.</p> <p>Test for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site) 5 days after the exposure.</p> <p>Consider quarantining for 5-days from other activities outside of work, especially if notified of an extended high-intensity exposure (e.g., household contact, unmasked social contact, contact during athletic activities).</p> <p>Wear a mask at all times during any activities when around others for 10 days.</p>	
<p>If only partially vaccinated (one dose of a two dose COVID-19 vaccine or within two weeks of final dose) or Unvaccinated or Vaccination status is unknown</p>	<p><i>If notified of a close contact with a COVID-19 case:</i></p> <p>Isolate at home for a minimum of 5 days since last exposure to the COVID-19 case.</p> <p>Test 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>Wear a mask at all times during any activities when around others for an additional 5 days (i.e., through day 10).</p>	<p><i>If no known close contact with a COVID-19 case:</i></p> <p>Isolate at home.</p> <p>Test for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site).</p> <p>If test result is negative, return to activities when fever-free for at least 24 hrs. and other symptoms are significantly improved.</p> <p>If test result is positive, 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 wear a mask at all times during any activities when around others for an</p>	<p><i>If notified of a close contact with a COVID-19 case:</i></p> <p>Quarantine at home from work, daycare and other activities for 5 days from the last exposure to the COVID-19 case.</p> <p>Test for COVID-19 (either self-test or at a testing site) 5 days after the exposure.</p> <p>Wear a mask at all times during any activities when around others for an additional 5 days (i.e., through day 10).</p> <p>NOTE: Children under the age of two should 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.</p>

<p>NOTE: Children under the age of two should 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.</p>	<p>additional 5 days (i.e., through day 10).</p> <p>NOTE: Children under the age of two should 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.</p>
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