

Emmanuel Day Care
2121 Cedar Hill Cross Road
Victoria, BC V8P 2R6
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Covid-19/Communicable Disease Health & Wellness Policy Updated January 2022

Please remember the Covid-19 public health emergency is rapidly changing, and our ability to remain open may change without notice, or we may be ordered to close in the upcoming months by BC's provincial health officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, and/or our Licensing Officer.

Before arrival, parents are instructed to do a Daily Health Check (Please refer to Appendix B: Example is attached) on themselves and their child.

If the parent has any COVID -19 symptoms, they must not come into the facility. If the child has COVID symptoms, they must remain home.

Staff and Parents can find more information by going to the BCCDC website when they are sick with COVID-19 symptoms.

They can also use the BC Self-Assessment Tool app, call 811 or their health provider for guidance.

Information on region-specific services (e.g. testing and vaccination sites) is available on the islandhealth.ca website.

Staff and parents can also visit HealthLink BC or call 811 for support on what to do when sick with any symptoms of illness, including non-COVID-19 symptoms.

If Staff or a child has been recommended to have a test for COVID-19, they **must stay home until they receive their test result:**

If the test is **negative, they can return when symptoms have improved and they feel well enough to participate in all activities.**

If the test was **positive, they must follow direction from public health on when they can return.**

Children usually have very mild symptoms of Covid-19. These symptoms are often a low fever and a dry cough. Some children do not have any symptoms. For children, it is important to think about what is usual or unusual about their specific symptoms. For example, a child may have a runny nose due to seasonal allergies.

Additionally, our regular health and wellness policy stands:

Children may NOT attend Day Care while they have any of the following symptoms:

- Unusual, unexplained loss of appetite, fatigue, irritability, or headache
- Eye infections
- Unexplained rashes or any rash that is not confirmed by doctor to be non-contagious
- Known or suspected communicable diseases (measles, chicken pox, pink eye, hand foot and mouth, etc.)

- Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea in the last 48 hours.
- If your child develops any of the above symptoms while in our care, we will move them to a separate supervised area, and you will be required to pick them up immediately. Emmanuel Day Care will not be held liable for any changes to your child's health.

If your child develops any of the above symptoms, they will be able to return to Emmanuel Day Care when their symptoms have improved and they feel well enough to participate in all activities.

If a child begins to experience symptoms of Covid-19 while attending Day Care:

- Symptomatic children are immediately separated from others in a supervised area until they can go home. In addition, where possible, anyone who is providing care to the child should maintain a 2-metre (6 feet) distance.
- If a 2-metre distance cannot be maintained from the ill child, advice from the local public health unit will be necessary to prevent/limit virus transmission to those providing care.
- While contacting the public health unit, at minimum the child and childcare worker will wear a surgical/procedure mask (if tolerated).
- Hygiene and respiratory etiquette will be practiced while the child is waiting to be picked up.
- Tissues will be provided to the child for proper respiratory etiquette, with proper disposal of the tissues and proper hand hygiene.
- Environmental cleaning of the space the child was separated, will be conducted once the child has been picked up.
- Contact the local public health unit to notify them of a potential case and seek input regarding the information that will be shared with other parents of children in the childcare centre.

Health, Safety, Cleaning and Drop-off/Pick-up Procedures:

- Parents are required to do a **Daily Health Check** on themselves and their child. Parents are required to wear a mask before entering the building.
- Parents will enter the Day Care playground to drop-off/pick-up their child.
- When the hallway is clear of another parent/child you may then enter the Day Care hallway through the side door off the playground.
- Parent and child use hand sanitizer.
- Hang up outside clothing. Change shoes and put in cubby.
- Parent sign-in child and tick the Covid disclaimer to provide active confirmation that they and yourself have no symptoms of illness and are not required to self-isolate.
- The Teacher will greet you and your child at the Art room door.
- The Teachers will take your child to wash their hands with soap and water for 30 seconds.
- Please exit up the hall and out the side door to the left, following the floor arrows.

- At the end of your child's day, if the children are not outside, parents will enter the playground and, if the hallway is clear of another parent/child, enter the hallway and knock on the Day Care classroom door.
- If the children are in another location in the building (e.g. Gym), the parent can go to the main entrance by the Church office and ring the doorbell during office hours (8:30am-noon; 1 – 3:30pm) and use hand sanitizer after entering.
- After 3:30pm the children will be in the Day Care classroom or outside.
- Sign your child in/out.

Supplies in Day Care

- Objects made of materials that are not easily cleaned (e.g. foam, playdough, etc.) or typically cleaned intermittently (e.g. fabrics, soft toys, etc.) can be used. They should be cleaned (if possible) according to regular practices.
- Books, paper, other paper-based products, laminated or glossy, paper-based products and items with plastic covers do not need to be cleaned and disinfected, or quarantined for any period of time.

Outdoors

- Staff and children are encouraged to be outdoors as much as possible throughout the day.
- Please dress your child for the weather as playing outdoors is a Licensing requirement.

Cleaning Protocols

- We have licensed approved disinfectant in spray bottles used with paper towels to clean items.
- All high touch surfaces (door handles, light switches, washrooms, sinks, etc.) will be cleaned at least 1x/day and when visibly dirty.
- Any surface that is visibly dirty will be cleaned and disinfected.
- Cots are cleaned and disinfected after each use. Blankets are sent home once a week to be laundered.

Health Protocols

- Staff and children will follow strict health protocols.
- All Staff are required to wear a mask at all times while indoors, subject to the following exemptions:
- If a person is unable to wear a mask because they don't tolerate it (for health or behavioural reasons);
- If a person is unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person;
- If the mask is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it;
- If the person is eating or drinking;

- While providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements are important.
- We will ensure and supervise hand washing is being done when; entering the building; before and after eating times; after washroom use; after coughing or sneezing; etc.

Other

- Children are NOT required to social distance from each other. We will encourage them not to congregate in a big group, however, children are social beings and we will allow them to be social with each other.
- We want Emmanuel's Day Care to be a safe, calm and caring place for the children and Staff.