



COVID-19 Policies and Procedures

At Mighty Mouse Daycare, the health and safety of the families and our staff are of the utmost importance. Every effort will be made to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 and maintain a safe and healthy environment. Therefore, based on the Public Health Guidance for Child Care Settings issued by BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) the following policies and procedures are in place. Please feel free to speak to us regarding any questions/concerns that you may have.

Personal Health and Safety Measures

To promote respiratory etiquette and good hand hygiene, we ensure:

- Any persons entering the centre are to sanitize hands upon arrival
- Parents to sanitize their hands before and after signing their child into their program
- Children will be helped to achieve correct hand washing techniques
- Children will be asked to wash their hands before and after engaging in activities such as playdoh, sensory play etc.
- Disposable gloves to be worn by staff when changing diapers, cleaning blood or contamination of surfaces with body fluids
- Washing/sanitizing hands:
 - ✓ after toileting
 - ✓ before and after eating any meals or snacks
 - ✓ before and after outside play
 - ✓ after coughing, sneezing or wiping nose with a tissue
 - ✓ whenever a child is observed to put their hands/fingers in the mouths or nose
 - ✓ when hands look visibly dirty
 - ✓ before staff wear and after removing disposable gloves

Cleaning and Disinfection

We continue to implement our existing cleaning and disinfecting of the programs and centre, including the toys and equipment. However, additional cleaning and sanitizing is carried out on a daily basis. Frequently touched surfaces are disinfected twice daily and when visibly dirty (this includes door and cupboard handles, tops of shelving, garbage can lids, etc.) Staff will also clean visibly soiled surfaces and areas as needed. We incorporate ongoing learning opportunities for the children about staying healthy and following respiratory etiquette into our daily programming.

For example, encouraging your child to cough/sneeze into their elbow sleeve, not to touch their face or put toys on their face or in their mouths. Should we see that a toy does go on a child's face or in their mouths, the toy will be removed immediately to be cleaned and sanitized.

All children's bedding is washed weekly or immediately if a child has been sick or if soiled.

Daily Health Check

We request that all staff and other adults in the centre complete a daily health check. We will ensure that when entering, they are aware they should not come in if they are sick or are required to self-isolate. We kindly request that you complete a daily health check on your child, and should they be sick or are required to self-isolate, they are not to attend the centre. This also applies should they be showing symptoms of any other illness or sickness.

To ensure everyone's safety, while it is not required by public health, we kindly request that families let us know via email when your child is exhibiting symptoms or test/ed positive for COVID-19. We will continue to notify families if a confirmed case of COVID-19 has occurred in your child's program and ask that you please monitor your child for any symptoms.

Please note that if any staff or child has symptoms that are consistent with a previously diagnosed health condition and are not unusual for the person, they can continue to attend the centre. No assessment or note is required from a health care provider.

Should your child develop any COVID-19 symptoms while attending the centre we will contact you immediately to request that you pick them up. While waiting for a child to be picked up, we will position them in the program where they are separated from others while being supervised and can wait comfortably while being at least two meters away from others. We will carry out additional cleaning and sanitizing of any activities/spaces that have been in contact with the child.

If your child has been exposed to COVID-19

Public health does not require individuals who have been exposed to COVID-19 to stay at home and they are no longer required to self isolate, regardless of vaccination status, unless they develop symptoms and/or test positive for COVID 19. Therefore, any staff or children who have been exposed to COVID-19 may continue to attend their program.

Should they develop symptoms of COVID-19 or test positive, please refer to the guidelines on the BCCDC website.

What to Do When Sick

We ask that you monitor your child for symptoms of COVID-19. Symptoms include new or worsening:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- Difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Loss of appetite
- Runny nose
- Sneezing
- Extreme fatigue or tiredness
- Headache
- Body aches
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Any staff, children, or other persons in the centre who are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 are to stay home until they are well enough to participate in their regular activities. All regular daycare fees are applicable.

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 and you are managing their illness at home, you can end the self isolation period and return to the centre when all three of these conditions are met:

- 1) At least 5 days have passed since the symptoms started, or from test date if they did not have symptoms.
- 2) Fever has resolved for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen.
- 3) Symptoms have improved.

It is recommended that if there is still a fever or the person is not feeling better than they should continue to self isolate longer.

If you are unsure or concerned about your child's symptoms, we recommend you contact your health care provider or call 8-1-1.

Public Health Orders

We will ensure that we are aware of any local public health orders and implement any necessary measures at the centre if applicable. Should it be mandated by BCCDC, Federal Canada or public health agencies that childcare centres are to close temporarily, Mighty Mouse Daycare will not charge fees for times we cannot provide you with our regular services.

If an outbreak occurs at the centre and a Medical Health Officer deems it necessary to mandate a temporary closure, regular fees will apply.

Unless directed to do so by public health, Mighty Mouse Daycare will use our discretion to close if we have any operational or business reasons to do so. For example, should we be experiencing illness amongst the staff, we may need to close if we are unable to maintain the staff to child ratios as required under the Child Care Licensing Regulation. Under these circumstances, families will once again not be charged for the days we are unable to provide care.

Due to possible ongoing updates/changes made to the travel health requirements and advice regarding travelling outside of Canada and re-entering Canada, we kindly request that you check the current requirements set out by the Federal government to determine when your child can return to the centre should your family chose to travel outside of Canada. If your child has to self isolate, all regular daycare fees are applicable.

Please note that these policies are subject to change based on the recommendations set out by the BCCDC, public health officials and Federal government regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we will notify families of any policy changes within the centre. We would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation.