

# COVID-19 Policy

The health and well-being of our families and staff are our highest priorities. In the interest of limiting the opportunity for transmission to our vulnerable community, we are taking the following precautionary measures:

Your household must remain out of the center if any member of your household has (or has been in close contact with anyone who has):

- (a) A suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 (for example - close contact at school, work, religious service, social gathering); or
- (b) Traveled:
  - internationally; or
  - domestically from any area which is the subject of travel restrictions under applicable state and local guidance.

14 days after the last potential exposure, your household may return to the Childcare center **provided these three things have happened:**

- (a) At least 10 days have passed since any household member first experienced symptoms; **and**
- (b) Symptoms have improved for any household member that experienced symptoms (for example, cough or shortness of breath has improved); **and**
- (c) The household has been fever-free for at least 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicines.

Depending on the circumstances we may require families to obtain medical clearance before Childcare services will be allowed.

**HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS:** include individuals who may not live in the household but may be staying there or are otherwise present in the household on a regular basis (e.g. nannies, caregivers, home health workers, contractors, etc.) and includes anyone with pick up or drop off privileges at the center.

**CLOSE CONTACT:** is defined by the CDC as (1) being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time and can occur while caring for, living with, visiting, or sharing a health care waiting area or room with a COVID-19 case, or (2) having direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g., being coughed on). Considerations when assessing close contact include the duration of exposure and the clinical symptoms of the person with COVID-19.

**FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS:** If contact occurs while wearing recommended personal protective equipment or PPE (e.g., gowns, gloves, NIOSH-certified

disposable N95 respirator, eye protection), that contact will NOT be considered close contact for purposes of this policy.

### **Health Check Policy - COVID 19**

Applies to caregivers, families, children and their respective household members, which states in part: **ALL CAREGIVERS, FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND THEIR RESPECTIVE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS MUST CONDUCT A DAILY HEALTH CHECK BEFORE ANY CARE IS PROVIDED.**

Should you or any household member have any of the following symptoms, you should not bring your child(ren) to the center that day and should notify us.

- Fever of 100.4 F or higher, now or in the preceding 72 hours
- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Muscle Aches
- Difficulty Breathing

Consistent with our COVID-19 Policy, the household will be required to remain out of the center for 14 days unless medical clearance is provided by a physician indicating that the presenting symptoms are associated with a known non-COVID-19 illness. The physician's note must not be from a family member.

### **Illness Policy- COVID 19**

Suspension of a Childcare service is sometimes necessary to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. To reduce the risk of contagion, if your child, caregiver or anyone else present in the household becomes ill while in care, you must relieve the caregiver and make alternate arrangements for supervision of your child(ren) within 1.0 hour of notification.

### **How to Protect Yourself/Your Household**

Please see the CDC guidelines for current guidance on best practices for protecting yourself and your household during this pandemic: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

**Cloth Face Covering:** We recommend that all caregivers and families be familiar with the CDC's recommendations around cloth face coverings available [<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>]. The CDC generally recommends individuals wearing cloth face coverings to protect people around the wearer of the cloth face mask, in the event the wearer is infected but not symptomatic, to reduce the spread of COVID-19. **Note:** This guidance does not apply to children 2 or under, or to those who are

advised not to wear a face covering for other health reasons. Cloth face coverings are NOT a substitute for social distancing, hand washing or other everyday preventative actions.

## **Health and Hygiene Practices**

Our regular health and hygiene practices provide some of the best defenses against the spread of most contagious illnesses. In addition to regular and thorough cleaning of classrooms, surfaces and toys, we teach children good hand-washing practices and ensure that children and staff take important precautions against the spread of germs.

You can work with your children to practice some of these same steps at home:

- Wash hands often with soap and water.
- Sneeze or cough into your elbow; or cover mouth and nose with a tissue before sneezing or coughing, then immediately discard the tissue.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid kissing, hugging, and sharing cups or eating utensils with people who are ill.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces, especially if someone is sick.

We appreciate your attention to these important guidelines. Contact us at (313) 473-8892 with any questions or visit [RhemaChildcare.org](https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus) to reserve care at any time.

**Please Note:** Rhema Childcare Center would continue to update our families in regards to COVID-19 pandemic [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) and <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus>. Also, we would continue to remind our families about the Governor Executive Orders as they are updated.

### **Social Distancing**

- Our group size would be limited to 10 or less per staff. However, we would follow the licensing guidelines as well regarding group size.
- We would keep the same children with the same staff throughout the day, if possible.
- During outside play, we would make sure one class go out at a time.
- During meal time children would sit approximately 6 feet from each other, if possible.
- Common spaces would be thoroughly sanitized throughout the day between usage.

### **Isolation Procedure**

- All children would be placed in a safe location with a staff member until the child can be picked up by a family member.

· All staff member that begin to feel ill during the day. They would be sent home until they are cleared by a medical physician.

If a child, staff or visitor become ill while at the center, RCC must contact the local health department and licensing consultant for the next steps.

**RCC would encourage children, families, staff and visitors to refer to the [cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov) or [Michigan.gov](http://Michigan.gov) website for more information and for best practices.**

**Also, we would have posters and brochures posted throughout the center.**