

PARENT/GUARDIAN COVID-19 SCREENING AGREEMENT

Under Provincial direction, child care centres may operate following strict health and safety protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to ensure the safety of child care staff, children and their families.

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously seen in humans. The virus can cause symptoms like the common cold but can advance, in some cases, to severe respiratory illness or even death. COVID-19 can be spread from person to person, usually after close contact with someone infected with the virus.

Health and Illness Protocol for COVID-19

Children who are ill should not attend the child care centre.

Children should not attend child care if any member of their household is ill with COVID-19 symptoms.

To manage the risk of spreading illness within the child care centre, Peel Public Health has provided direction on cleaning/sanitation protocols and personal health care practices including frequent hand washing. Peel Public Health also requires daily active screening of all individuals arriving at the child care centre.

ALL CHILDREN must be screened **DAILY**. Parents/guardians are required to report any symptoms in household members and to take the temperature of children attending child care (if temperature checks are not a part of on-site screening) prior to arriving at the child care centre. Parents/guardians will report the information to staff during the active screening process or during the self-assessment for children attending school. In addition to daily active screening, all children will be monitored throughout the day for emerging signs or symptoms of illness.

Your COVID-19 screening results, including contact information, collected by the child care centre during the screening process, may be provided to Peel Public Health, to help manage and reduce the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus in the child care centre.

As a Parent/Guardian, you can prevent the spread of illness by keeping your child(ren) home from the program if you, household members or your child(ren) experience **any** of the following signs or symptoms:

- A temperature at or above 37.8 degrees Celsius (100 degrees Fahrenheit)
- New or worsening cough or shortness of breath
- Lethargy (lack of energy) or difficulty feeding (if an infant and no other diagnosis)
- **Any** of the following symptoms:
 - Sore throat
 - Difficulty swallowing
 - Pink eye (conjunctivitis)
 - Chills
 - Rash (in children)
 - *Croup (in children)
 - Headaches
 - Unexplained fatigue/malaise/ muscle aches
 - Abdominal pain
 - Diarrhea (3 or more episodes of loose/watery stools within a day)
 - Nausea/vomiting
 - Decrease or loss of sense of taste or smell
 - Runny nose without other known cause
 - Nasal congestion without other known cause

*Respiratory infection resulting in barking cough and difficulty breathing

If your child(ren) experiences **any** of the signs or symptoms listed above while at the child care centre, staff will contact you or one of your emergency contacts to pick up your child(ren) **immediately**. While your child(ren) waits for you or your designate to arrive, s/he will be separated from the other children.

Any family member experiencing symptoms should be tested for COVID-19 before the family can return to child care. The Supervisor will provide the parent/guardian with contact information for Peel Public Health. Children with symptoms must be excluded from child care and self-isolate for 14 days after the onset of symptoms (unless tested negative). This exclusion will also apply to children exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19 or to symptomatic person(s) from the date of their last exposure, even if they test negative.

To protect the health of all individuals at the child care centre, staff will support the arrival and pick up routine for families. Upon arrival, once a child(ren) has completed active screening and been deemed able to enter the centre, staff will escort the child(ren) to the appropriate program room. Parents/guardians are discouraged from entering the centre. Pick-up and drop-off of child(ren) will occur outside the child care setting unless it is determined that there is a need for a parent/guardian to enter the setting.

To protect the health of all individuals at the child care centre, all children in grades 4 and above are required to wear a non-medical or cloth mask while inside the child care centre, including the hallways. Peel Public Health strongly recommends that child care centres consider making masks mandatory for children from Grades 1-3, and that kindergarten children are strongly recommended to wear a mask while inside the child care centre. **Note:** If the child care program is located inside a school, child care providers must follow individual school board direction as per the mandatory use of non-medical masks for children. Parents/guardians are responsible for providing their school-aged child(ren) with a mask(s). If your child is unable to wear a mask for any reason, please inform the child care staff. Reasonable exceptions are permitted including those who have trouble breathing, unable to wear a mask for medical reasons or unable to remove mask without assistance. Proof of a mask exemption is not required.

As a Parent/Guardian responsible for my child(ren)'s child care placement, I agree to the following:

- I have read and understood the above information;
- I understand the risk of illness associated with placing my child(ren) in child care services;
- I agree to all screening requirements and to accurately respond to all screening questions, including the reporting of temperatures daily for all persons entering the centre. Misrepresentation on any screening questions, including temperatures or masking fevers with medication could result in the termination of my child care placement;
- I will not administer any medication to my child(ren) that may mask the symptoms of illness, such as Tylenol or Advil, prior to dropping my child(ren) off at the child care centre;
- I agree to exclude **all** of my children from child care **immediately** upon observing **any** of the above signs or symptoms of illness in any family member until medically deemed able to return to care; and
- I understand that all children in grades 4 and above are required to wear a non-medical or cloth mask while inside the child care centre, that children in grades 1-3 may be required to wear a non-medical or cloth mask, and that kindergarten children are strongly recommended to wear a non-medical or cloth mask while inside the child care centre. Parents/guardians are responsible for providing their children with masks.

Parent Name and Signature: _____

Date: _____

COVID-19 Screening

Notice with Respect to the Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Health Information

The information pertaining to your COVID-19 Screening is being collected, used and disclosed under the authority of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act R.S.O 1990 c.H.7* and will be retained, used, disclosed and disposed of in accordance with all applicable municipal, federal and provincial laws and regulations governing the collection, use, disclosure and disposal of information including the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act R.S.O. 1990 c.M.5* and the *Personal Health Information Protection Act 2004 S.O. 2004 c.3*.

This information will be used by Peel Public Health to investigate the occurrence of COVID-19 in the Region of Peel, provide case management, follow-up with close contacts to assess the risk to others, program planning and evaluation. If you test positive for COVID-19, your result may be disclosed to your child care provider to reduce the risk of spreading the virus in a child care setting. Any questions, regarding this collection, use or disclosure may be directed to the Medical Officer of Health, Peel Public Health, 7120 Hurontario Street, P.O. Box 669 RPO Streetsville, Mississauga, Ontario, L5M 2C2, 905-791-7800.