

## COVID-19 Guidance for Exclusion in the Child Care Setting

If a **child** has a symptom associated with COVID-19 **AND** they receive a negative COVID-19 test result or a definitive, alternative diagnosis (e.g. ear infection, strep throat, etc.), they may return to child care after being 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medication. If the child does not receive a definitive alternative diagnosis and is not tested for COVID-19, they must isolate following current guidance for COVID-19.

Symptoms associated with COVID-19 are as follows, but are not limited to:

Cough	Rigor
Shortness of breath	Myalgia
Difficulty breathing	Headache
Fever of 100.4 or greater (subjective or measured)	Sore throat
Chills	New olfactory and taste disorder

Ask the parent/guardian to confirm that the child does not have any of these symptoms at dropoff. During dropoff and throughout the day, make a visual inspection of the child for signs of illness which could include flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue, or extreme fussiness.

If a **parent** has a fever when they are dropping their child(ren) off or picking them up, the child(ren) should be excluded from child care until a definitive diagnosis is made for the parent, or until 14 days after the parent is considered recovered.

If a **staff person** has a symptom associated with COVID-19, including a fever greater than 100.4, **AND** they receive a negative COVID-19 test result or a definitive alternative diagnosis (e.g. ear infection, strep throat, etc.), they may return to work after being 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medication. If the staff person does not receive a definitive alternative diagnosis and is not tested for COVID-19, they must plan to isolate following current guidance for COVID-19.

If a case of COVID-19 is identified in child care environments, recommendations for quarantining other children will have to be made on a case by case basis.

Lab tested positive COVID-19 is a reportable disease.

For reporting to the Northern Kentucky Health Department (Boone, Campbell, Grant and Kenton Counties), call 859-363-2070

For reporting to the Three Rivers Health District Health Department (Carroll, Gallatin, Owen, and Pendleton Counties), call the designated COVID-19 line at 502-514-7409.

Sources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html>

Kentucky Department for Public Health. "KY COVID-19 Case Classification." 5-12-20.

**Northern Kentucky Health Department**

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