

REOPENING RACINE COUNTY

Best Practices for Day Care Facilities

As the “Safer at Home” order comes to an end, Racine County businesses are preparing to reopen. Below are the best practices for your business to safely reopen and operate during the next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Employee Health:

- Pre-screen employees for symptoms prior to starting shift.
- Do NOT allow symptomatic people to work. Send them home if they arrive at work sick.
- Require employees to wear facemasks.
- Provide the opportunity for staff to wash hands often (or provide hand sanitizer).
- Educate all staff to cover coughs and sneezes using elbow (not hands).
- Practice social distancing by setting up workstations at least 6 feet from other staff.
- Provide proper personal protection equipment for all staff as needed.
- Promote telework options for nonessential employees.
- If any worker has tested positive for COVID-19, they will need to remain home in isolation for a minimum of 10 days and 72 hours asymptomatic.
- If any worker is named as a close contact of a positive patient, they will be put in quarantine by the local health department for 14 days from last exposure.

Pre-Screening of Children:

- Ask the parent/guardian to confirm that the child does not have fever, shortness of breath or cough.
- 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.
- Pre-screen children:
 - If child or any household member has tested positive for COVID-19, delay the services until they have been released from quarantine/isolation and are symptom free for 72 hours.
 - If child or any household has members under quarantine for close contact of a positive patient, delay the services until they have been released from quarantine.
 - If child is sick with any undiagnosed illness, delay the services until they are symptom free for 72 hours.

Disinfection:

- Disinfect restrooms on a hourly basis with a posted sign and sign off of time of cleaning.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces as much as possible. Item to consider are doorknobs and handles, faucets, tables, chairs, service counters and payment keypads.
- Increase disinfecting toys and games. Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized should not be used.
- Regularly stock supplies for handwashing, including soap and materials for drying hands.
- All cleaning materials should be kept secure and out of reach of children.
- Cleaning products should not be used near children.
- Staff should ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using disinfection products to prevent children from inhaling toxic fumes.

Social Distancing:

- Limit the number of individuals in the business to no more persons then the current emergency order allows.
- Move drop-off and pick-up of children outdoors to minimize number of people entering facility.
- Upon arrival, stand at least 6 feet away from the parent/guardian and child.
- Implement a staggered drop off and pick up procedure.
- Establish mechanism to maintain 6 feet separation while waiting in line to enter or check out. Mark six-foot intervals on the floor for patrons to stand on.
- Offer cashless/contactless transactions if possible.
- Post signs discouraging groups from gathering in larger number.

General:

- Cloth face coverings should NOT be put on babies and children under age two because of the danger of suffocation.
- Keep each child's bedding separate and consider storing in individually labeled bins.
- Childcare providers should utilize wearing a smock as a barrier from secretions.

Meal Service:

- Serve meals in classrooms instead in a cafeteria or large group.
- Plate each child's meal to serve it so that multiple children are not using the same serving utensils.
- Food preparation should not be done by the same staff who diaper children.
- Sinks used for food preparation should not be used for any other purposes.
- Caregivers should ensure children wash hands prior to and immediately after eating.
- Caregivers should wash their hands before preparing food and after helping children to eat.