

<b>Hucklebug Preschool Inc.</b>		<b>Section: 2.8.45</b>
<b>Last Approval Date:</b> June 24/20 <b>Latest Approval Date:</b> June 24/20	<b>Policy:</b> Covid-19 Child Care Centre Operation Use of Personal Protective Equipment Policy <b>Policy Number:</b> 45	<b>Corresponding Forms:</b> Active screening Policy Maximum Capacity, Cohort Size and Ratio Policy Exclusion of Sick Children and Staff Policy Enhanced Cleaning Policy Active Screening Tracking Checklists Operational Requirement Checklist Covid-19 Guide to Reopening

## 1 Purpose

This policy is in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the requirement for the City of Peterborough to establish written policies and procedures outlining the operator's health and safety protocols to support the safe re-opening of child care centres. This policy adheres to the advice of Dr. David Williams, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Ministry of Education's Operational Guidance for Re-opening and local Medical Officer of Health to keep people safe.

The purpose of this policy is to keep all persons entering the facility safe and to outline all required procedures to be strictly implemented and adhered to daily.

## 2 Application

This Procedure applies to:

- All persons entering the child care facility – including children, staff (including cooks, cleaners), and visitors (inclusive of parents/guardians).

## 3 Definitions/Acronyms

**CCLS – Child Care Licensing System**

**COVID-19 – is a disease caused by the 2019 novel coronavirus**

**MOH – Medical Officer of Health**

**PPE - Personal Protective Equipment**

**PPH – Peterborough Public Health**

## 4 Procedure

For non-healthcare settings the use of PPE should be considered based on a risk assessment of the task, the individual and environment.

Deciding to use PPE is based on your risk assessment of the situation

- Ask yourself: What you will be doing, is there a risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus?
- **PPE should not be worn when it is not needed**
- Physical distancing at 2 metres and proper hand hygiene will be the most important way to protect yourself from the COVID-19 virus
- Improper use of PPE can create a false sense of confidence, increase chances of infection and waste supply
- Proper use of PPE is an effective part of infection prevention and control, however it is not a stand-alone method

Three types of PPE may be considered based on a risk assessment of the situation. Proper hand hygiene must be exercised before donning and after doffing PPE including gloves, face masks and eye protection.

The following PPE is available at all child care sites and may be used if there is an identified risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus:

- Gloves
- Masks
- Eye Protection

Gloves may be worn when hands come into contact with a child exhibiting respiratory symptoms or objects that may be contaminated. Gloves are disposable and single use, and must be disposed of after the task is completed.

### **If symptoms develop in staff or children during the day, what should staff do and how should they use PPE?**

#### **For Staff**

Staff who become ill while at the child care centre should immediately put on a mask (perform hand hygiene first) and be sent home immediately. They should be directed to complete the [online self-assessment tool](#) for further guidance or seek assessment and testing at the nearest [assessment centre](#).

#### **For Children**

If a child begins to experience symptoms of COVID-19 while attending child care:

- Isolate the sick child and notify parents/guardians or emergency contacts for pick up immediately. The sick child should be kept at least 2 metres (6 feet) from other attendees and staff. Provide the sick child with a surgical/procedural mask if tolerable and above the age of 2 years
- Child care staff who supervise/care for the sick child must wear a surgical/procedural mask and eye protection at all time and not interact with others. Avoid contact with the child's respiratory secretions. Perform meticulous hand hygiene
- Clean and disinfect the space and items used by the sick child

- For items (e.g. paper, books, cardboard puzzles) that cannot be cleaned, they should be removed and stored in a sealed container for a minimum of 7 days
- Siblings of the sick child are also to be picked up and excluded from the child care centre.

### **Suspect Outbreaks**

As per the Health Protection and Promotion Act, suspect outbreaks should be reported to public health.

### **When would PPE be recommended?**

The COVID-19 virus is spread through the respiratory droplets of an infected individual. To limit the spread of the virus maintaining a physical distance of 2 metres between all individuals when possible and maintaining proper hand hygiene is recommended. Hand hygiene should be promoted with both staff and children at the centre. In addition, enhanced cleaning and disinfection is a critical prevention strategy. PPE should be worn in accordance with the Operational Guidance During COVID-19 Outbreak Re-Opening Child Care document.

When wearing a mask, you should wash your hands before donning the mask and before and after removing the mask. Refer to [Public Health Ontario resources](#) for how to properly wear and take off masks and eye protection.

Perform and promote frequent, proper hand hygiene (including supervising or assisting participants with hand hygiene). Hand washing using soap and water is recommended over alcohol-based hand rub for children. Refer to Public Health Ontario's [How to Wash Your Hands fact sheet](#).

For additional information refer to '[Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Child Care Facilities](#)' PPH Fact Sheet

Child care operators and home child care providers should secure and sustain an amount of required PPE that can support ongoing operations.

The Ontario Together Portal has a [Workplace PPE Supplier Directory](#) that lists Ontario businesses that provide personal protective equipment.

## **5 Amendments/Reviews**

<b>Date</b> (yyyy-mm-dd)	<b>Section #</b> <b>Amended</b>	<b>Comments</b>

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