The Vermont Department of Health recently released guidance for child care and school age camps/care that plan on operating in the summer of 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. This guidance and other resources can be found on the Department’s website healthvermont.gov/covid.

The following is a brief description of what you may see at your child care or school age program. The following guidelines support programs to stay open and provide a safe, healthy, and fun place for your children to grow, learn, and play. For more information, please talk to your child care or school age program.

**Children Able to Attend**
Healthy children and children with the following symptoms may attend child care and school age programs:

- Allergy symptoms, without a fever that cause coughing and clear runny nose may stay if they have medically diagnosed allergies and follow any medical treatment plans
- Tested negative for COVID-19, no fever for 72 hours and no symptoms of illness listed below

**Children Who May Not Attend**
Children may not attend when they are:

- Have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- Have symptoms, been tested for COVID, and are awaiting results

Children also may not attend if they are experiencing any of the following:

- A cough, fever, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell
- Fever (temperature higher than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit)
- Severe sore throat that lasts more than 48 hours, especially with a fever
- A significant rash, particularly when other symptoms are present

➢ If symptoms begin while at the child care or school age camp/care, the child will be sent home immediately

➢ Individuals with a temperature greater than 100.4 F will be sent home until they have had no fever for 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications (e.g., ibuprofen (Advil) or acetaminophen (Tylenol))
Drop Off/Pick Up

Your child care or school age program may have drop off or pick up procedures based on the health guidance, including:

- **Daily Health Check** for the children and staff attending care (screening questions: contact with COVID-19 case and symptoms and temperature check)
- New **drop-off and pick-up procedures** (set arrival times and request for the same parent or designated person to drop off and pick up every day)
- **Handwashing** upon entry of all individuals entering the program, including adults

**Cloth Facial Coverings for Children:** Recommended not required

- Children under 2-years-old should not wear a cloth facial covering
- Help your children to understand the importance of wearing cloth facial coverings to prevent the spread of germs
- Cloth facial coverings are developmentally appropriate for children when they can properly put on, take off, and not touch or suck on the covering
- Children with medical reason for not wearing a cloth facial covering must not wear one
- Children should not wear a cloth facial covering while sleeping, eating, swimming, or other times when they would get wet
- Cloth facial coverings can be removed during outdoor activities where children and staff can maintain physical distancing; they need to have ready access to put them back as needed when activity stops

**During the Day**

Your child care and school age program will be doing more during the day to keep your children safe including:

- **Staff will be wearing cloth facial coverings all day**
- Frequent thorough cleaning each day
- Small groups of no more than 25 individuals per classroom—staff and children
- Children are separated into classrooms and do not share common places
- No combined group activities
- No outside visitors and volunteers
- Staff should remain with the same group each day
- Frequent handwashing throughout the day with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized will not be used

**Resources**

- Vermont Department of Health: [healthvermont.gov/covid](http://healthvermont.gov/covid)
- Let’s Grow Kids: [letsgrowkids.org/coronavirus](http://letsgrowkids.org/coronavirus)
- Child Care Aware: [info.childcareaware.org/coronavirus-hub/families](http://info.childcareaware.org/coronavirus-hub/families)
- Healthy Children/AAP Parenting Website: [healthychildren.org/](http://healthychildren.org/)