

Growing Minds Learning Center's Covid-19 Policies

Close Contact

Definition-Being in direct connection with someone who tests positive for Covid or any of its variants

As an Early Care and Education Program Growing Minds understands that we are experiencing very troubling times. We have felt the impact of Covid-19 and know the inconvenience it poses to everyone. With this in mind, we have created a policy specific to our center that was constructed using much of the guidance of the CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Test To Stay- The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental has modified its Covid-19 guidance for K-12. These guidelines would not apply to children that are under 4-years of age and especially children under two who are unable to wear masks. Children who have had close contact can avoid a full 10-day quarantine if they have no symptoms and get tested twice: once on day 3 and again between days 5-7. Tests can be rapid antigen test or PCR test with results coming in 24 hours or less. However, the child will have to quarantine during the first 3 days and return with proof of a negative test result. This can not be conducted using an at home test unless the test is done at the center and the director sees that the results belong to the child. If the test is negative the child is still required to wear a mask until the second test has been taken and is negative.

Children Under Two and Unable to Wear a Mask

We understand the difficulty of getting children who are under two to wear a mask, therefore; if a child is unable to mask after being in close contact with Covid-19 they will be required to remain quarantined for a full 14 days if they are not tested. If the child is tested after day 7 and the test results are negative with no signs or symptoms, they may return to the childcare center on day eight. If the child is living with a sibling or a parent who has Covid, the child will remain home 3 days after the close contact has tested negative and must test negative with no signs or symptoms.

Visitors Entry and Mask Policy

The number one cause of the spread of Covid is being in close proximity with a person who is positive for 15 minutes, but the time could be shorter. Covid can be spread through sneezing and coughing or touching surfaces that have been touched by someone who has Covid. In an effort to stop the spread, Growing Minds requires all visitors to wear a mask and to sanitize their hands upon entry. They must also consent to temperature checks. Failure to wear a mask when coming to the door to drop off a child, even if you don't plan to enter will result in being turned away. Once the transmission of the disease has been contained will re-visit our mask policy.

Symptoms

Any child exhibiting signs or symptoms of Covid will be asked to remain home until they have been tested and given a negative result. We understand that staying home from work causes problems for families, so the director will gladly provide a letter for employers. Symptoms include fever or chills, shortness of breath, headache, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting, frequent cough, or sneezing, congestion of runny nose, new loss of taste or smell. If any of these symptoms emerge, we will call ask that the child be picked up. Parents will be given 30 minutes to pick children up to keep them from spreading the potential disease to others.