

It is important that all of our actions in the near future are consistent with these guiding principles. Re-opening or changing the way a business or venue operates is a major undertaking. Below we have a collection of general ideas that businesses or owners should take into consideration when developing business-specific plans for re-opening or alteration of operations:

- » Educate staff and parents about symptoms of COVID-19 infection (see additional sheet).
- » **Staff and children should stay home if they are sick or household members are sick.**
- » Staff and parents are encouraged to have anyone suspected of having an infection get tested for COVID-19 by their primary care provider or through an urgent care center.
- » Staff and children should be asked about symptoms of COVID-19 upon arrival each day. Checking temperatures is reasonable, but this is not required unless mandated by MSDE.
- » Identify an area to separate any child who exhibits COVID-like symptoms during hours of operation until they can be picked up and taken home.
- » Notify the Health Department immediately of any possible case of COVID-19: [410-535-5400](tel:410-535-5400) x334.
- » **A child care program must close any time a laboratory-confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 occurs. This is the case any time an infected person was in your daycare center after developing COVID-19 symptoms or if they were in the facility during the 2 days prior to developing symptoms.**
- » Create a communication system for staff and families for reporting symptoms. This system will also allow notification of daycare exposures and closures.
- » Ensure that classes include the same group of children each day and that the same providers remain with the same group each day, if possible.
- » Limit group size to 10 people, including staff.
- » Space out seating and bedding (head-to-toe positioning) to 6 feet apart if possible.
- » Close communal use spaces, such as game rooms or dining halls, if possible; if this is not possible, stagger use and disinfect between uses.
- » Have play time outside as much as possible.
- » Serve meals in classrooms instead of a group dining room
- » Minimize mixing between groups
- » Teach and reinforce washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes among children and staff.
- » Post signs on how to stop the spread of COVID-19, i.e.: proper hand washing, properly wearing a face covering.
- » Teach and reinforce use of cloth face coverings among all staff. Face coverings are most essential when indoors and at times when social distancing is not possible.
- » Clean, sanitize, and disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as playground equipment, door handles, sink handles multiple times per day, and shared objects between use.
- » Avoid use of items that are not easily cleaned, sanitized, or disinfected.

**Requirements may change at any point contingent on health necessities or new directives from the Governor's Office.*