

Gillis Play and Learn Centre's Illness Policy (Updated August 2020)

Covid – 19 illness policy

Covid -19 illness policy will be intact until there is no longer a threat of Covid to the members of GPLC.

Parents and guardians will be well aware that if their child is showing signs or symptoms of Covid-19 that their child will not be permitted to GPLC. Staff will be conducting daily health screening at the door to ensure that child and families are healthy and showing no signs of illness. See Appendix A for our current Covid -19 Screening tool. This tool will be updated and kept current as we learn more about the virus from Public Health.

A child who meets any of the exclusion criteria will not be admitted to the center and will be advised to immediately isolate and consult Health Links – Info Santé.

If a child develops symptoms while at the facility, the child will isolate in a separate room with a staff. If a separate room is not available, the child needs to be kept at least two metres/ six feet away from other children and staff. If possible, a mask should be provided to and worn by the sick child (> 2 years of age only).

Parents will be notified to come and pick up the child within a one-hour timeline. Parent will be asked to contact Health Links – Info Santé or the child's health care provider for direction if required.

If a child is symptomatic and their symptoms resolve after 24 hours they are not required to go for testing. The child can return to the center 24 hours after the symptom has disappeared. If a child's symptoms last more than 24 hours then they are required to go for testing. It is important for parents and guardians to call Health Links – Info Santé to be sure they are getting the most accurate advice.

An up-to-date list of symptoms can be found at: <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/updates/about.html>

If a child or staff member at our facility exhibits symptoms:

- Refer to pages 14 & 15 of the ELCC practice guide (See Appendix B)
- If the sick child or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19 through laboratory testing, Public Health will follow up with any identified contacts. Follow up will typically occur within 24 hours after receiving the individual's laboratory results. If there is no notification by Public Health, you can assume no contacts within the centre have been identified or the sick child or staff member has been confirmed not to have COVID-19.

Illness Policy

The Director, Supervisor or senior staff has full discretion for determining when a child should be sent home due to illness. On notification the parent or guardian must pick up the sick child promptly and arrange for alternate childcare. Parents/guardians may be asked to provide a doctor's note indicating that the child is well enough to return to the center. Incubation periods will follow Public Health Guidelines. It is the parent's responsibility to notify the Centre if their child contracts a communicable disease including pink eye, pinworm, lice, impetigo, ringworm, scabies, etc. In an emergency, a child's medical history will be made available by center staff if required by Health Professionals.

The following criteria will be used to evaluate whether your child is sick and will need to leave the Center:

- Fever exceeding normal temperatures of 38.5C/100.5F
- Rash or spots develop
- Extreme change in child's normal behaviour
- Cold symptoms ie difficulty breathing, sore throat, severe coughing
- Extreme irritability or confusion
- A child's complaint of pain i.e. ear ache, upset stomach, etc
- Symptoms of diarrhea or vomiting
- Yellowish discharge from eyes
- Yellowish skin tone or whites of eyes

Parents/guardians will be called to pick up the child. If the Center is unable to reach the parents/guardians, Staff will contact an emergency pickup person listed on your registration form.

We ask that parents/guardians do not send sick children to the Centre as you will be asked to take them home upon arrival. It is important that the Center provide a healthy environment for all children in the Center's Care.