WHAT TO DO IF A CHILD BECOMES SICK AT CHILD CARE OR REPORTS A NEW COVID-19 DIAGNOSIS

Adapted from CDC guidance. Last updated 03/18/2022

Child displays signs of infectious illness consistent with COVID-19.

- Child Care Center
  - Provider notifies COVID-19 POC1 in Center and ill child is isolated away from class group as soon as it is feasible.
  - COVID-19 POC notifies parent, guardian or caregiver of ill child.
  - A child is newly identified as having COVID-19.
  - Close contacts3 are notified, advised to stay home (quarantine for 14 days), and consult with their health care providers for evaluation and determination if testing is recommended.

Family Child Care Home

- Parent(s), guardian(s) or caregiver reports child to have recent contact with a person with COVID-19.
  - Provider isolates ill child away from child group, ensuring that all children are actively supervised at all times.
  - Parent, guardian or caregiver pick up child. Parent or guardian should consult with health care provider for evaluation and determination if testing is recommended.

Positive COVID-19 Result

- COVID-19 POC in child care program notifies close contacts3 of the ill child to communicate possible exposure. Close contacts include teachers, staff, and parent(s), guardian(s) or caregiver(s) of the child in the program.
  - Owner/Director works with local health officials to assess transmission levels and support contact tracing efforts.

Negative COVID-19 Result2

- Child returns to child care following existing child care program illness management policies.
  - Exposed areas in child care environment closed off for up to 24 hours. Cleaning and disinfection of area is performed.
  - Members of the child’s household are requested to quarantine for 14 days.
  - Owner/Director communicates with teacher(s), staff, and parent(s), guardian(s) or caregivers the importance of COVID-19 mitigation strategies (e.g., staying home when sick, washing hands, wearing masks, physical distancing).
  - Child returns to child care program after meeting criteria for ending home isolation.4

Notes
1 Scenario based on geographic area with community transmission of SARS-CoV-2 – the virus that causes COVID-19
2 COVID-19 POC = the designated point of contact in the child care program
3 With no known close contact
4 Close contact is defined as someone who was within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes or more within 2 days prior to illness onset, regardless of whether the contact was wearing a mask.
4 Child can end home isolation after meeting all of the following three criteria: at least 10 days since symptoms appeared, at least 24 hours with no fever-reducing medication, and symptoms have improved