



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Childcare Guidance Updated April 20, 2020

A [Shelter at Home](#) order for Napa County has been issued through April 30, 2020. Subsequent orders will lessen restrictions in phases. Please click on the [Shelter at Home](#) link for the most recent order and FAQs. This order is deemed necessary to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and decrease the burden on the healthcare system.

The Shelter at Home Order provides an exception to childcare facilities that remain open to enable employees exempted by the order (due to their role in an [essential service](#)) to work as permitted. Childcare programs can pose a risk for intergenerational transmission and one of our primary goals is to protect Napa County’s significant population of older adults and individuals with chronic diseases and compromised immune systems. This guidance serves to provide health and safety guidelines for childcare facilities that remain open to serve the children of essential service workers.

Childcare administrators and staff should review U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Guidance for Childcare:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html>

Guidance for School Settings:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>

The following guidelines are intended to reduce the chance of COVID-19 exposure in these situations:

- 1) Childcare ideally should be provided in the child’s home, by household members, without exposure to other children or ill individuals.
- 2) At this time, group childcare should be used only by essential service employees.
- 3) Group childcare should follow these guidelines and ratios:
 - a) Department of Social Services approved ratios-

Child Care Centers:

Age	Staff: Child Ratio	Group Size
0-18 months (infant)	1:4	10
18-36 months (toddler)	1:6	10
3 years – kindergarten entry (preschool)	1:10	10
School age (mixed age groups)	1:6	10

Family Child Care Homes (FCCH)

Small and large family childcare homes may serve a total capacity of no more than 14, and group size may not exceed 10 children, unless more restrictive group sizes are required by state, federal or local authorities. (Over ten children will require an additional staff or assistant to maintain group sizes of ten or fewer children.)

In other words, if there are more than 10 children in care, then the children need to be divided into two small groups and kept separate from the other group of children each day, to the greatest extent possible. It

is important to keep the same children and teacher or staff with each group and include children from the same family within the same group, whenever possible.

Age	Staff: Child Ratio	Group Size
Infants only	1:4 (infant)	4
No more than two infants when 6 children are present	1:6 (2 Infant +4 children)	6

4) Infection control measures:

- a) Screen children and staff for fever or cough daily, before entering childcare.
- b) Childcare centers should stagger drop off and pick up times to maintain social distancing. Ideally, the same parent should drop off and pick up.
- c) Exclude ill children and employees (those with fever or cough) from the facility.
- d) Any children or staff who develop symptoms should put on a surgical mask, enter a separate room, and be sent home as soon as possible.
- e) Children or staff should not return to work or childcare until they are well.
- f) Children and staff should wash hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol (if hands are not visibly dirty) before and after eating, drinking, touching eyes/nose/mouth, toileting or diapering, and physical contact with each other.
- g) Clean high-contact areas and surfaces frequently, using 10% bleach solution or EPA-approved disinfectant, including counters, toys, telephones, and doorknobs. See California Environmental Protection Agency's [guidance on using disinfectants at schools and child cares](#).
- h) Staff and children should practice good respiratory hygiene including coughing/sneezing into sleeve and covering coughs.

Parents should keep children home if they are sick. Children with symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g. fever and cough) should be kept home until they meet all three criteria below.

- No fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use medicine that reduces fevers) AND
- other symptoms have improved (for example, cough or shortness of breath have improved) AND
- at least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

To avoid further spread of the virus in the community, children with exposure to a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case should stay home for 14 days after the last exposure. If the exposure is to a household member, this would be 14 days after the person met the three criteria for recovery above.

Additional Information

County of Napa

<https://www.countyofnapa.org/Coronavirus>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/novel-coronavirus-2019.html>

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV20_19.aspx

California Department of Social Services

Social and Physical Distancing Guidance and Healthy Practices for Childcare (PIN 20-06-CCP) from Community Care Licensing: https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CCLD/PINs/2020/CCP/PIN_20-06-CCP.pdf

Questions about the Guides for Childcare Centers

Community Resources for Children (CRC)

<http://www.crcnapa.org/> or by phone: 707-253-0376

If you need accessibility assistance, please contact ADAcoordinator@countyofnapa.org or (707) 259-8744.