



## Childcare Programs

### COVID-19 (RE)OPENING DECISION TREE\*

# Are You Ready to Open?

Follow this guide to help determine if your organization is ready to (re)open childcare programs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Be sure to also check with your state and local health officials in order to take the most appropriate steps for a safe and responsible (re)opening.

NO

YES

## 1 Do you have PERMISSION?

Do your state and local orders permit childcare programs to be open?

## 2 Can you provide PROTECTION?

Can you check BOTH boxes?

- Can you **PROTECT** children and employees at higher risk for severe illness?
- Are you able to **SCREEN** children and employees upon arrival for symptoms and history of exposure?

## 3 Have you established POLICIES?

Can you check ALL FOUR boxes?

- Do you **COMMUNICATE** and **PROMOTE** healthy hygiene practices (hand washing; employees wearing cloth face coverings) as feasible?
- Have you intensified **CLEANING, DISINFECTION, and VENTILATION** of facilities and transportation vehicles/ buses?
- Do you encourage **SOCIAL DISTANCING** through increased spacing, small groups, limited mixing between groups, distance between children not playing together, and distance between children during nap time?
- Can you adjust activities and procedures to **LIMIT SHARING** of items such as toys, belongings, supplies, and equipment?

## 4 Do you have a PLAN?

Can you check ALL SEVEN boxes?

- Do you have **PROCEDURES** to check for signs and symptoms in children and employees daily upon arrival?
- Can you implement **TEMPERATURE CHECKS** and **SYMPTOM MONITORING** for children and employees who have recently been present in areas of high transmission?
- Have you **TRAINED** all employees on health and safety protocols?
- Do you have a **PLAN** for if children or employees get sick?
- Do you have a plan for **COMMUNICATING AND MONITORING DEVELOPMENTS** with local authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures?
- Do you have a flexible employee **LEAVE POLICY**, a pool of trained substitutes (or for family child care an alternate caregiver), and the ability to monitor and adapt to employees leaving?
- Are you ready to **CONSULT** with local health authorities if there are cases in your facility or an increase in cases in the local area?



Yes.  
But monitor.

If ANY boxes are un-checked...



No.  
Do not open.



Not yet.  
Keep preparing.

\*This decision tree is a modified design of an original produced by the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC). Language has been edited from the original but the concept and checkbox points come directly from the CDC's original design.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/Camps-Decision-Tree.pdf>