

COVID-19 Protocols for

Child Care/Before and After School Programs

Updated November 18th, 2021

This document is subject to change in accordance with direction from the Ministry and local health officials.

The most recent updates are highlighted in yellow.

All programs will be required to continue following strict health and safety measures while operating at their full licensed capacity. Highlights of changes from the previous protocols are listed below:

- Children will no longer have temperature checks completed at arrival. Parents are
 responsible to check their child's temperature when completing the on-line screening at
 https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/ before attending child Care each day.
 Children attending the afterschool program will still have temperature checks upon
 arrival at the child care.
- Frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected at least once mid-day, ex. washrooms (toilet fixtures, faucets), eating areas (tables, sinks, countertops), doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, touch screens, push buttons, handrails, computers, photocopiers, sports equipment, water fountain knobs., etc.
- Fully vaccinated staff and Essential Visitors who travel outside of Canada do not need to quarantine when they return to Canada unless they are directed to do so. They are able to return to Growing Together and follow all Covid Protocols in place.
- Unvaccinated staff and Essential Visitors will need to follow the direction of their health care provider in regards to quarantine when travelling outside of Canada.
- The following link has additional information regarding travel requirements.

https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/fully-vaccinated-travellers-without-covid-19-symptoms-returning-canada.html

Cohorts

- Children will be in cohorts according to their age range; ex. Infant, Toddler, Preschool,
 FDK, School Age.
- Cohorts will be able to combine with a maximum of 5 children from different cohorts during the first 1.5 hours in the morning and 1 hour before closing.
- Infants are not able to combine with any other cohort.
- Records will be kept with details around cohorts that combined to assist in contact tracing if necessary.
- Growing Together will mix the minimum amount of cohorts as possible and be consistent with groups combining. When combining cohorts, physical distancing between the two groups will be maintained as much as possible.

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

These protocols are intended to support child care programs, child care licensees, child care staff, post-secondary students and Essential Visitors. These protocols will be communicated via email to all GTFRC families and staff. They will also be available to view on the www.gtfrc.org website.

This guidance document is meant to support partners in meeting requirements set out under the <u>Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014 (CCEYA)</u> and the <u>Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19)</u> <u>Act, 2020</u>, to provide clarification on operating child care programs with enhanced health and safety guidelines and/or restrictions in place.

The guidance provided has been developed in consultation with the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and will be modified as applicable when these restrictions can be lifted and/or amended to reflect new advice at that time.

This guidance document has been designed for use in a Child Care Centre. In the event of a conflict between this document and the licensing manuals, this document will prevail. Advice of the local public health unit must be followed, even in the event that it is different from this guidance document.

The information found within this guidance document is intended to represent the minimum recommendations of the Ministry of Education. Child Cares may choose to implement additional measures based on local circumstances.

On September 1, 2020, child care programs were permitted to return to maximum group sizes as set out under the CCEYA (i.e., licensed age groups prior to the COVID-19 outbreak). All child care settings must continue to operate with enhanced health and safety measures in place.

As always, the top priority for the ministry is the health and safety of the children and child care staff/providers. We will monitor the COVID-19 outbreak situation closely and revise this guidance, as needed, in consultation with the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

The ministry is requesting school boards, Consolidated Municipal Service Managers/District Social Services Administration Boards, and child care partners, in collaboration with local public health units, work together to ensure full-day licensed child care programs located in schools are able to operate with these measures in place. The ministry understands that district school board protocols may differ from those of licensed child care and recommends that partners work together to align protocols where needed (i.e., in a shared space). To support consistency for children and families, the ministry has revised this guidance document, where possible, to align with the provincial <u>Guide to reopening Ontario's schools</u> as well as the information at the <u>COVID-19 reopening schools webpage</u>.

While the focus of this guidance document is on the health, safety, and operational measures that are required in order to operate child care as safely as possible, please note that every effort should continue to be made to uphold the welcoming and caring environment that child care provides for children and families. More information regarding the early years pedagogy, including helpful resources can be found on the <u>ministry website</u>. The ministry has also created a guidance document with ideas on how to provide an engaging environment while physically distancing: <u>Building On How Does Learning Happen?</u>

Before and After School Programs are also permitted to operate for the 2021-22 school year. Please refer to the 2021-22 Before and After School Kindergarten to Grade 6 Policies and Guidelines for more information. The health and safety guidance aligns with this document, where applicable, and includes program specific guidance as well.

The <u>Early Years Portal</u> contains a wealth of information to help licensees, staff and home child care providers understand the requirements of the CCEYA and its regulations.

You may wish to visit the <u>provincial COVID-19 website</u> regularly for current information, as well as the <u>Public Health Ontario public resources page</u> for information to help stop the spread, find sector specific resources, including helpful posters, mental health resources, and other information.

If you have further questions or require clarification, please contact your Ministry of Education program advisor directly or contact the Licensed Child Care Unit at information.met@ontario.ca.

LICENSING REQUIREMENTS

Licensing Processes and Renewals

Licenses are required to be amended, if necessary, to ensure director approvals and conditions on the license align with new restrictions.

To support the operational needs of licensees, the ministry will prioritize and expedite the review of requests to revise and amend licenses.

Licensees are required to meet all the requirements set out in the <u>Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014</u> (<u>CCEYA</u>) and its regulations and to obtain all necessary municipal approvals to support license revision requests.

Licensees must follow all current ministry and CMSM/DSSAB policies and guidelines.

Inspections

Ministry staff will conduct in-person monitoring and licensing inspections of child care centres where necessary.

Ministry staff will:

- conduct a pre-screen prior to entering the premises, as well as follow any screening protocols set out by the licensee (see screening section below);
- wear a medical mask and eye protection (i.e., face shield) as per occupational health and safety requirements under the Occupational Health and Safety Act and;
- follow any other protocols requested by the licensee.

Ministry staff will use technology (e.g., telephone, video conferencing) to complete virtual monitoring and licensing inspections where appropriate.

Maximum Group Size and Ratio

Child care settings are permitted to operate using maximum group sizes as set out under the CCEYA (i.e., licensed age groups prior to the COVID-19 outbreak).

Staff and students on educational placement are not included in the maximum group size. Please see the *Staffing* section for more information.

Children are permitted to attend on a part time basis and must be included in the maximum group size for the period of time they are in attendance. As with children attending full time, children attending part time should be included in one group and should not mix with other groups.

While groups are permitted to return to the previous maximum group size under the CCEYA (i.e., maximum group size prior to the COVID-19 outbreak), each group should stay together throughout the day and as much as possible should not mix with other groups.

Please see the *Health and Safety Requirements* section of this document for more information on limiting interactions between groups, particularly in shared spaces, and programming to support physical distancing.

Licensees are required to maintain ratios set out under the CCEYA. Please see the group size and ratio charts below for reference.

Mixed age grouping is permitted as set out under the CCEYA where a director approval has been granted on the license.

Reduced ratios are permitted as set out under the CCEYA provided that groups are not mixed and that reduced ratios are not permitted at any time for infants.

Group Size/Ratio Chart

Age category	Age range of age category	Ratio of employees to children	Maximum number of children in group
Infant	Younger than 18 months	3 to 10	10
Toddler	18 months or older but younger than 30 months	1 to 5	15
Preschool	30 months or older but younger than 6 years	1 to 8	24

Kindergarten	44 months or older but younger than 7 years	1 to 13	26
Primary/junior school age	68 months or older but younger than 13 years	1 to 15	30

Maximum Capacity of Building

More than one child care or early years program or day camp can be offered per building as long as they are able to maintain separation between the groups and/or programs, and follow all health and safety requirements that apply to those programs.

Staffing

Movement of supervisors and/or designates, staff and students on educational placement between child care locations (including Before and After School Program Locations) and between licensed age groups is permitted. Reducing the movement of staff and placement students where possible is encouraged to minimize potential for transmission.

Qualified Staff

- Licensees are required to ensure each group has the required number of qualified staff as set out in the CCEYA. Licensees may submit requests for staff director approval (DAs) to the ministry.
- Staff DAs can be requested from one child care centre to another child care centre that is operated by the same licensee.
- Licensees can request a staff DA for multiple age groups.

Certification in Standard First Aid Training, including Infant and Child CPR

- Staff that are included in ratios are required to have valid certification in first aid training including infant and child CPR, unless exempted under the CCEYA or the certification has been extended by the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB).
- The WSIB has indicated that all certifications that expire after March 1, 2020 are automatically temporarily extended.
- Licensees are encouraged to monitor the WSIB website for any updates on First Aid/CPR certificate extensions for any staff whose certification would have expired after March 1, 2020.

Vulnerable Sector Checks (VSCs)

 Licensees are required to obtain VSCs in accordance with the CCEYA from staff and other persons who are interacting with children at premises, including students on educational placement. • If an individual is unable to obtain a VSC in a reasonable amount of time due to significant backlogs, they must ensure the individual has applied for a VSC and put in place additional measures as set out in their reference check policy.

COVID-19 Requirements

Child care plays a critical role in our community. Growing Together Family Resource Centre is committed to providing quality child care for our community as we reopen amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Growing Together will follow procedures as documented in their policies and procedures as well as the regulations and guidelines put in place by the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit, Municipality and Childcare Ministry.

Some of the precautions to reduce the spread of COVID-19 could include but are not limited to:

- -Reduced Staff to Child Ratios
- -Reduced group sizes
- -Capacity of people in the building
- -Enhanced cleaning and Disinfecting
- -Hours of operation
- -Use of Personal Protective Equipment
- -Daily screening
- -Changes to minimum requirements to hold your childcare space
- -Physical Distancing Measures
- -Prioritization of available spaces

Growing Together will ensure all staff are aware of, and adhere to, the protocols put in place in response to the Pandemic. All staff will:

- -Receive Mandatory training before commencing employment and sign off on training.
- -Read and sign off on all Protocols put in place due to the Pandemic and any time a change is made to the protocols.

At this time Growing Together has put the following protocols in place:

- Hours of operation will be 6:30am to 5:30pm daily Monday to Friday for all locations.
- The extended program at May Court will not be offered at this time.
- Children will be in cohorts according to their age range; ex. Toddler, Preschool, FDK, School Age.
 See details below in Section titled Cohorts.
- The minimum requirement to maintain a space with Growing Together will be 2 full days or 3 half days a week. This will be considered part time status. 5 full days a week will be considered full time status.
- The minimum requirement to maintain a space with Growing Together during the school year is 3 sessions a week. (The am program would classify as one session and the pm program would classify as one session.)

- Growing Together staff will be able to complete multiple roles (ex. Screener and runner), as long
 as they are included in two or less cohorts. Staff are only able to work at one Growing Together
 location.
- Staff will receive scheduled hours weekly indicating start, end and break times.
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting will be in place. See Enhanced Childcare Cleaning and Disinfection Chart for more details, see Appendices #1.
- Upon arrival at the child care setting, all individuals entering the building including children, staff and essential visitors will be screened. See Childcare Health Screening Log, Appendices #2.
- Only Growing Together staff, children and essential visitors will be permitted to enter the child care at all Growing Together locations. Parents will be able to enter as essential visitors as needed with approval from a GTFRC staff member.
- Use of Personal Protective Equipment has been enhanced according to recommendations by the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit. See PPE section below.
- Essential Volunteers will be permitted in Growing Together Child Care Centres.
- Post-Secondary Students will be permitted in GTFRC classrooms.

Mandatory Training

Growing Together will ensure staff are aware of, and adhere to, the policies and procedures put in place in response to the Pandemic. All staff will:

- -Receive Mandatory Health and Safety training before commencing employment.
- -All staff will receive additional training as needed/recommended by Health Unit and sign off once training is complete.
- -As updates are made, all GTFRC staff will read and sign off on the changes.

The following are the 3 areas of training put in place by Growing Together:

1. All Growing Together employees will watch the training videos below before commencing employment and will sign off after receiving the training.

7 Steps of Hand Hygiene - https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/videos/ipac-gloves-on
Putting on Gloves - https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/videos/ipac-maskeyes-on
Taking off Mask and Eye Protection - https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/videos/ipac-maskeyes-off
Taking off a Gown and Gloves - https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/videos/ipac-gowngloves-off
Taking off Full Personal Protective Equipment - https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/videos/ipac-fullppe-off
Putting on Full Personal Protective Equipment - https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/videos/ipac-fullppe-on
How to properly Screen (Video) — https://www.dropbox.com/s/etd1ld0ilv6biir/Screening2.mp4?dl=0

- 2. All Growing Together employees will complete HR downloads Personal Protective Equipment Training online and sign off before commencing employment.
- 3. All Growing Together employees will read the Growing Together Covid-Protocols for Reopening Document before commencing employment and will sign off.

Communication with Families

Growing Together will ensure that families are aware of the enhanced health and safety measures prior to families coming to the centre. This will ensure that families are aware of their expectations and will promote confidence in the safety measures that have been put in place. Growing Together will share with parents, the policies and procedures regarding health and safety protocols to COVID-19 via email, including requirements and exceptions related to masks. This document will also be posted on the www.gtfrc.org website. Growing Together will also communicate with families through the Growing Together face book page and telephone calls. Families will read and sign the GTFRC Parent/Guardian Agreement Form before resuming child care and before any new family starts with GTFRC, see Appendices #3. Families will receive their account statements bi-weekly via email and e-transfer payments will be encouraged. Orientations for new families and parent meetings will be conducted through Zoom online or the telephone. Growing Together will ensure that there is visible signage at the entrances and drop off areas to explain the screening process and that non-essential visitors are not permitted at this time. The following posters will be hung and will assist in communicating enhanced screening and safety measures:

- Cover your Coughs and Sneezes
- Passive Screening 'Stop' sign (to be posted on entrance)
- Physical Distancing Sign
- Please Sanitize your Hands

In the event of a confirmed covid-19 case or an outbreak is declared in a Growing Together location, Growing Together will follow the direction of the CK Public Health Unit in regards to how to communicate the information to parents/guardians and staff.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Intent

Growing Together Family Resource Centre is committed to the health and safety of its employees and as such has created this policy regarding personal protective equipment (PPE). PPE is legislatively required and can prevent many workplace injuries. This policy must be observed at all times when working in areas requiring PPE.

Guidelines

All employees and essential visitors of Growing Together Family Resource Centre must wear appropriate CSA-approved PPE as follows:

- When handling blood, staff must wear disposable gloves and protective eye wear.
- When handling feces, eye discharge, saliva, urine and vomit, disposable gloves must be worn.
- When mixing or using chemicals in a high concentrated level, disposable gloves and protective
 eye wear must be worn. (Use of diluted bleach and water and diluted disinfectant for regular
 routine cleaning does not require the use of PPE.)
- When working in the kitchen, close toed shoes must be worn.

• When cleaning pet cages disposable gloves must be worn.

All of the PPE used and provided by the company will comply with the requirements under the Ontario occupational health and safety legislation.

PPE used by Growing Together Family Resource Centre employees should be stored and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and requirements. Any PPE that is damaged, broken, or in need of service or repair must be removed from service immediately and provided to the centre supervisor. All PPE that has been removed from use will be tagged "out of service" and should not be used again unless repaired and inspected by a qualified person.

No PPE should be modified or changed contrary to its manufacturer's instructions, specifications, or occupational health and safety legislation.

Employer Responsibilities

- GTFRC will ensure that employees use the appropriate PPE for their job duties.
- GTFRC will train and inform all employees on the use and inspection of PPE they may be required to use to perform their job duties safely.
- GTFRC will not allow any employee to perform their duties without appropriate PPE or with damaged PPE.
- GTFRC will remove any damaged or broken PPE from the workplace and submit it for repair or replacement.

Employee Responsibilities

- Employees must follow all guidelines as outlined above and wear all required PPE as required.
- PPE must be inspected at the time of issue and before each use by the employee.
- Any PPE that does not pass inspection must be reported to the centre supervisor.
- Employees must report any unsafe behaviors or potential hazards they see in the workplace to a supervisor.
- Employees may never under any circumstances modify or change an article of PPE.

 Uncomfortable PPE may be due to lack of fit and additional fit testing may be required.
- Employees must clean and disinfect Protective Eye wear after each use.

***In the event of an outbreak or Pandemic, enhanced measures around the use of Personal Protective Equipment may be required. Growing Together Family Resource Centre will follow the recommendations put in place by the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit. These enhanced measures will be provided to staff with additional training if applicable.

Recommendations for the use of PPE

Expectations for adults in a child care setting:

All child care staff and Essential Visitors are required to wear medical grade face masks (e.g. surgical/procedural) both indoors and outdoors if two meters of distance cannot be maintained between other individuals. Masks must also be worn at all times in hallways and staff rooms (unless eating – but time with masks off should be limited and physical distance should be maintained).

Protective Eye Wear (e.g. face shield or goggles) are required to be worn by all child care staff and regular essential visitors working in programs (e.g. CKCS and CTC staff) who come within two metres of an unmasked individual both indoors and outdoors.

Expectations for children:

All children in grades 1 and above are required to wear a properly-fitted non-medical or cloth mask indoors if two meters of distance cannot be maintained between other individuals. Masks must also be worn at all times in the hallways.

Children younger than grade 1 are encouraged to wear a non-medical or cloth mask both indoors and outdoors in a child care setting, including in hallways.

Masks are not recommended for children under the age of two.

***Physical distancing is strongly encouraged between groups/cohorts.

Additional PPE Measures due to Covid-19 include:

- The ministry recognizes that some children will be unable to wear masks for medical reasons and it is expected that these will be relatively rare cases. See section on Mask Exemptions below.
- Growing Together will support children to wear masks to the greatest extent possible.
- Resources are available that can be shared with parents/guardians on supporting children in
 wearing masks and on health and safety practices for children who cannot wear masks. See for
 example this tip sheet from Holland Bloor view Kids Rehabilitation Hospital.
- Adults such as electricians and plumbers in the building for short periods of time, can wear only a medical grade face mask but must physical distance as much as possible.
- Parents/guardians are responsible for providing their school-aged child(ren) with a mask(s).
- Growing Together will supply staff with Medical Grade Face Masks and Protective Eyewear.
- In circumstances where a physical distance of at least 2 metres or 6 feet can be maintained between individuals, face masks and protective eyewear will not be required. (This may include office staff working alone in an office, program staff cleaning toys inside while children are playing outside.) Masks and protective eye wear must be worn at all times in hallways.
- Masks should not be worn for high intensity activity.
- Masks should be replaced when they become damp or visibly soiled.
- When wearing a mask, you should wash your hands before putting on the mask and before and
 after removing the mask. Refer to Public Health Ontario resources for how to properly wear and
 take off masks and eye protection.
- Perform and promote frequent, proper hand hygiene (including supervising or assisting participants with hand hygiene). Hand washing using soap and water is recommended over alcohol-based hand rub. Always use soap and water with young children. Refer to Public Health Ontario's How to Wash Your Hands fact sheet.

- Reasonable exceptions to the requirement to wear face masks or other PPE will be reviewed
 as needed for medical conditions, etc. GTFRC will use the <u>Government of Ontario's</u>
 <u>Guidance on Face Coverings and Face Masks</u> as a reference.
- In the event an exemption for PPE is made for a staff, it will be documented and placed in the staff's file.
- If a child, staff or essential visitor received a COVID-19 vaccination in the last 48 hours and has mild headache, fatigue, muscle aches and/or joint pain that only began after immunization, and no other symptoms, they are to wear a properly fitted mask for their entire time in the child care setting. The mask may only be removed to consume food or drink and the individual must remain at least two metres away from others when their mask has been removed. If the individual has a mask exemption, they will not be able to attend until they are symptom free.

Mask Exemption

Growing Together, with the support of the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit, will review mask exception requests on an individual basis as needed.

In the event that a child attending a Growing Together program, a Growing Together staff member or an essential visitor requires a Mask Exemption, the following steps are required before the exemption can be put in place:

- 1. The Parent/Guardian representing the child, the Growing Together staff or the essential visitor will consult with a physician to get the mask exemption authorized. (A Doctor's note is not required, only confirmation that a doctor has approved the mask exemption.)
- 2. The Parent/Guardian representing the child, the Growing Together staff or the essential visitor will set up a meeting with the Growing Together site supervisor to complete the GTFRC Mask Exemption Form. See Appendices #7
- 3. A copy of the completed Mask Exemption form will be placed in the child or staff's folder. A copy of the Essential Visitor's completed form will be stored in a separate file for reference.
- 4. An Individual Support Plan will be completed for all children with a Mask Exemption.

The following are reasons why an individual may require a mask exemption:

- The individual has a medical condition that inhibits their ability to wear a face covering.
- The individual is unable to put on or remove a face covering without help from someone else.
- The individual is receiving accommodations according to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 or the Human Rights Code

***Please note that Children under the age of 2 should never wear a face mask or face covering

Who should not wear a mask?

Face Masks should not be placed on or used by:

- children under the age of two
- anyone who has trouble breathing
- anyone who has a medical condition that makes wearing a mask unsafe for their health
- anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance

Face Masks should:

- fit securely to the head with ties or ear loops
- · maintain their shape after washing and drying
- be made of at least two layers of tightly woven material (such as cotton or linen)
- be large enough to completely and comfortably cover the nose and mouth without gaping

Face Masks will not protect you from getting COVID-19

The best way to protect yourself is to:

- minimize errands to a single trip where possible
- avoid close contact with others and keep at least two meters from others outside your household
- wash your hands regularly (or using alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available)
- practice proper cough and sneeze etiquette (for example, sneeze and cough into your sleeve and avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth)

How to properly use face Masks:

When wearing a face mask, you should:

- wash your hands immediately before putting it on and immediately after taking it off (practice good hand hygiene while you are wearing the face covering)
- make sure the face covering fits well around your nose and mouth
- avoid moving the mask around or adjusting it often avoid touching the covering while using it
- not share it with others
- Face Masks should be changed when they get slightly wet or dirty.

How to properly remove or dispose of a Face Masks:

When removing a face mask, you should:

- throw it out into a lined garbage bin
- wash your hands

Do not leave any discarded face coverings in shopping carts or on the ground.

Cleaning

If the face mask can be cleaned, you should:

- put it directly into the washing machine or a bag that can be emptied into the washing machine
- wash with other items using a hot cycle with laundry detergent (no special soaps are needed), and dry thoroughly
- wash your hands after putting the face mask into the laundry

All face masks **that cannot be cleaned** should be thrown out and replaced as soon as they get slightly wet, dirty or crumpled.

For more information, please read the Public Health Ontario (PHO) fact sheet.

Summary Dos and Don'ts

Do:

- wash your hands immediately before putting on and immediately after taking off a face covering or face mask
- practice good hand hygiene while you are wearing the face covering
- make sure the face covering fits well around your nose and mouth
- avoid moving the mask around or adjusting it often
- avoid touching the covering while using it
- change the face covering or face mask when it gets slightly wet or dirty

Do not:

- share face coverings or face masks with others
- place on children under the age of two years or on anyone unable to remove without assistance or who has trouble breathing
- use plastic or other non-breathable materials as a face covering or face mask

Attestation Form

The Ministry of Education has provided all child care operators with an Attestation Form. Growing Together will complete and submit this form to the Ministry of Education Program Advisor at least two days prior to reopening our childcare locations after the pandemic. (Completed July 14th, 2020)

The form confirms that Growing Together has developed and reviewed the enhanced protocols with staff, parents and visitors, and that the policy has been made available to parents.

Prioritization

Families that were enrolled with Growing Together prior to closing on March 13th, 2020 will have priority over new families wanting care. When determining prioritization of limited child care spaces, the following criteria will be used:

- Growing Together Family Resource Centre Staff Children
- Working Families requiring full time care
- Working Families requiring part time care
- Families with special circumstances that would benefit from children returning to care, such as children with special needs.

Additional considerations and recommendations on prioritization policies will be discussed on an ongoing basis through Operator Update teleconferences and one-on-one meetings with the CMSM.

Children's enrollment date with Growing Together may be used in the event of limited child care spaces.

In the event that Growing Together is closed due to a Pandemic, a survey will be emailed to all Growing Together families to determine need. Priority will be given to families who complete the survey according to the time frame listed on the survey.

Parent Fees

In the event that Chatham-Kent goes into a Municipal lockdown, parents will not be required to pay a reserve fee to hold their childcare space if care is not needed.

Arrival and Departure Policy

The following procedures will take place when children, parents/guardians, staff and essential visitors arrive and depart from all Growing Together Family Resource Centre locations.

Arrival

- Only Growing Together staff, children and essential visitors will be permitted to enter Growing Together locations.
- As needed, parents/guardians will be able to enter Growing Together locations as essential visitors. Active Screening will be conducted before any essential visitor enters the building. All essential visitors must pass screening and wear a medical grade face mask indoors.
- Parents or Guardians will be responsible to complete on-line screening at https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/ with their child(ren) before they arrive at their Growing Together location daily. A printed version of the screening will also be available at the screening table for parents to review if they do not have access to the online site. A Growing Together staff will complete a condensed screening with all children upon arrival. The child must pass the screen before entering the child care setting past the screening area. See Childcare Health Screening Log, Appendices #2.
- All approved individuals entering a GTFRC location must wear a face mask or face covering. This includes children in grades one and older. See PPE section above for details.
- Ministry staff and other public officials (e.g., fire marshal, public health inspectors) are permitted to enter and inspect a child care centre and premises at any reasonable time.
- All Growing Together staff and essential visitors will participate in active screening daily, upon arrival, which will include daily temperature checks prior to entry. See Childcare Health Screening Log, Appendices #2.
- If an individual does not pass the screening checklist, they will not be able to enter the building. See Health Screening Procedures section for more information.
- Everyone entering a Growing Together location will be required to sanitize their hands upon entry. Alcohol based hand sanitizer with a concentration of 70-90% alcohol will be available with signage demonstrating appropriate use, for adults and older children with parent/guardian assistance. Hand Sanitizer will not be accessible to children. Younger children will be asked to wash their hands upon entering their classrooms.

- Drop off times will be daily from 6:30am-10:00am. The Tecumseh School and Harwich Raleigh School locations will have screening tables open until school children are released to their school day classes. (Children can be dropped off after 10:00am but may have longer wait times as the official screener/walker will not be readily available.)
- Children, staff and essential visitors are encouraged to minimize their personal belongings brought into the centres. Belongings should be labelled and stored in children's cubbies or a designated area.
- There will be "X" placed on the ground in the entrances ways for families to stand on while waiting, to ensure physical distancing.

<u>Departure</u>

- Parents/Guardians will be met by a Growing Together staff at the main entrance of the centre to pick up their children. Staff will walk children to their Parents/Guardians.
- Pick up times will be daily between 3:00pm and 5:30pm. The Tecumseh School and Harwich Raleigh School locations will have screening tables open after school from 3:45-5:30pm daily. (Children can be picked up before 3:00pm but may have longer wait times as the official screener/walker will not be readily available.)

Liability and Insurance

All requirements under the CCEYA will be met in addition to the enhanced health and safety measures outlined in this document and by local public health.

Before and After School Programs (K-GR.6)

With some exceptions, these protocols apply to child care centres and before and after school programs. For easy reference, Items referring explicitly to before and after school programs in other sections of this document will be marked in green.

The following information is intended to provide clarification and best practices to operate before and after school programs with enhanced health and safety guidelines and/or restrictions in place for the 2020-2021 school year due to COVID-19.

All before and after school programs operated or contracted by the board should follow the health and safety requirements set out by the Ministry of Education for core-school program delivery as well as guidance provided by the school board and local public health unit.

Please refer to the Ministry of Education's documents for more information and guidance:

http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/child-care-guide-child-care.pdf.
http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/childcare/before-and-after-school-programs-guide.pdf
How Does Learning Happen?

As of September 2020, the Ministry of Education has provided direction that all before and after school programs may operate with pre-COVID-19 outbreak declaration ratios and maximum group size requirements.

Enhanced Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection

From what is currently understood about COVID-19, commonly used cleaners and disinfectants are effective against the virus. In order to prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses including COVID-19, Growing Together will maintain their routine cleaning and disinfection schedules, and also follow an updated Enhanced Childcare Cleaning and Disinfection routine with recommendations put in place by the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit. See Appendices #1 titled "Enhanced Childcare Cleaning and Disinfection Chart." Growing Together will consult with the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit to determine the preferred type and grade of disinfectant to use. All products including cleaners and disinfectants will be stored out of the reach of children, labelled and will have up to date Safety Data Sheets (SDS) on site. Each classroom and washroom will have its own designated disinfectant. Growing Together will ensure cleaning and disinfectant products are not expired, and will follow all manufacturer's instructions.

<u>Cleaning</u>: will be done primarily with soap and water which will remove dirt and grease that can hide and protect germs from disinfectants. Cleaning with soap and water will also substantially reduce the number of germs that may be on surfaces.

<u>Disinfecting:</u> after cleaning with soap and water, disinfectant will be sprayed on surfaces and staff will ensure the recommended contact time (time the surface stays wet) is achieved.

<u>Record Keeping</u>: In addition to Child Care and Early Years Act Record keeping requirements, Growing Together will retain;

- Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfectant Chart
- Screening logs

These records will be kept for a minimum of one year and will be stored on the premises of the child care centre at which the child receives care. Growing Together will produce a specific cleaning and disinfecting chart for each classroom & outdoor playground, kitchen, and common areas. The checklists will be used to track and demonstrate cleaning schedules. Growing Together will have designated staff to clean and disinfect. These individuals will be responsible for keeping cleaning and disinfecting records. These staff may also perform other duties. (See Appendices #1- Enhanced Childcare Cleaning Chart)

Enhanced Cleaning Frequencies

The risk associated with transmission with shared objects is low. Instead of regular cleaning of shared objects, the focus should be on regular hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette to reduce the risk of infection related to shared equipment. This is especially the case for young children where shared equipment is important for learning (for example, toys for imaginative play, manipulatives for math).

Toys & Play Structures:

- Increase frequency of cleaning and disinfecting (See Appendices #1)
- There will be designated toys and equipment for each room/cohort
- Any mouthed toys will be cleaned and disinfected immediately after each use. After disinfecting, the toys will be rinsed with potable water.
- GTFRC will provide toys and equipment which are made of materials that can be easily cleaned and disinfected (e.g., avoid plush toys) as much as possible.
- If sensory materials (e.g., playdough, water, sand, etc.) are offered, emphasis will be placed on hand hygiene before and after the use of materials.
- Single use and dedicated to one child sensory activities are preferred.
- Children and staff will wash their hands before and after outdoor play.
- In shared outdoor space, mixing between groups and any other individuals outside of the group is permitted, though physical distancing will be encouraged between groups as much as possible.
- Play structures are not required to be cleaned and disinfected between groups. The focus instead on proper hand hygiene before and after using shared play structures.

Frequently touched areas:

- Frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected at least once mid-day, ex.
 washrooms (toilet fixtures, faucets), eating areas (tables, sinks, countertops), doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, touch screens, push buttons, handrails, computers, photocopiers, sports equipment, water fountain knobs., etc.
- Staff will adhere to diapering and toileting steps and ensure proper cleaning and disinfecting between diaper change or toileting processes.
- It is recommended that shared spaces (i.e., washrooms) or shared objects, should be cleaned in between each use and only one group at a time should access the shared space/equipment.

Other areas:

- Large equipment and shelving will be cleaned and disinfected every week
- Floors will be swept and mopped daily or more often if necessary.
- Carpeted floors will be vacuumed at least once per day
- Tables and chairs will be cleaned and disinfected at least once daily and between each cohort or more often if needed
- Tables and countertops used for food preparation and food service will be cleaned and disinfected before and after each use
- Highchairs will be cleaned and disinfected before and after serving food
- Washrooms will to be cleaned daily and between each group usage. In the event that it is not possible to clean the washroom(s) in between the use by each group of students, focus on proper hand hygiene before and after using the washroom is advised.
- Low touch surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected daily and between cohorts. These include window ledges, doors, sides of cabinets, furniture, etc.
- Potty chairs and diaper changing surface will be cleaned and disinfected after each use
- Cots and cribs will be labelled and assigned/designated to a single child.

- Cots and cribs will be fully cleaned, disinfected and laundered weekly and high touch surfaces daily.
- The cleaning equipment itself will be carefully cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis to avoid inadvertent cross-transmission of microorganisms during subsequent use.
- Fabric furniture coverings and throw rugs will be laundered weekly, or more often as needed
- Any shared items will be disinfected between users (phones, binders, tablets, etc.)
- Children will be asked to limit personal belongs to essential items only that can be easily disinfected. An example would be diapers and wipes in unopened packages, bottles, soothers, indoor shoes, and extra clothing.
- Soothers will be washed in soap and water upon arrival, individually labelled, and stored separately (not touching each other.) Soothers will not be shared among children.
- When using creams and lotions, staff will never put hands directly into the bottle. Single-use disposable gloves will be worn and only put into the container once per glove.

All items used by a symptomatic individual will be cleaned and disinfected as soon as possible. The tables, chairs and any surfaces the symptomatic child touched will also be cleaned and disinfected. If the items cannot be cleaned (e.g. books) should be removed and stored in a sealed container for a minimum of Seven days.

Program Statement/Activities

- Licensees are encouraged to continue to implement their program statement.
- The ministry recognizes that there may be approaches outlined in the program statement which may not be possible due to physical distancing.
- Licensees are not required to make updates to their program statement during this time.

Child Care Centre Health Screening

- Growing Together Screening stations will be set up outside the main entrance for each location.
- Parents or Guardians will be responsible to complete on-line screening at https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/ with their child(ren) before they arrive at their Growing Together location daily. A printed version of the screening will also be available at the screening table for parents to review if they do not have access to the online site. A Growing Together staff will also complete a condensed printed screening with all children upon arrival. The child must pass the screen before entering the child care centre. See Childcare Health Screening Log, Appendices #2.
- All staff and essential visitors will participate in active screening daily upon arrival through a
 printed screening tool, which will include daily temperature checks. See Childcare Health
 Screening Log, Appendices #2.
- The screener and all Growing Together staff, will screen themselves immediately after entering the building if the screening station is not open. They will take their own temperature and log their own information on the Staff screening sheet.

- Essential Visitors who attend a GTFRC location on a regular basis, ex. CKCS workers, will be trained by a GTFRC staff to complete screening on themselves. Moving forward they will be able to screen themselves upon arrival.
- Children will also be monitored for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 throughout the day.

Parents/Guardians will be made aware of the screening process before starting with Growing Together and visible signage will be hung at the entrances and drop-off areas as a reminder.

Growing Together will deny entry to any individual who fails the screening procedure. When an individual does not pass the screening and is not permitted to attend the program, this does not need to be reported to the Public Health Unit. Refer to the "Screening Protocols for GTFRC" form for details around next steps for parents. Appendices #5. A copy of this form will be given to parents who do not pass screening and available for parents who have an ill child sent home.

Before and After School Programs:

- All individuals, including children attending before and after school program, staff and essential
 visitors will be screened each day before entering the centre. See Childcare Health Screening
 Log, Appendices #2.
- Staff in the GTFRC after school programs will conduct visual health checks and take the temperature of all children, before they enter the childcare program, from the school. The information will be recorded onto daily logs and kept on the premises. See Appendices #6
- Protocols are in place to allow for communication between school/core day and before and after school providers regarding screening.
- All before and after school program providers must maintain daily records of screening results, and keep these records are on the premises.

Screening Reception Area

Growing Together will have one designated entrance, at each location, with a Screening Area set up outside. A Growing Together staff, trained on the screening procedures, will complete daily screening on children and essential visitors. GTFRC staff can screen themselves as needed.

The screening area will have signage identifying the screening process and will be set up at the main entrance of each facility, blocking access to the building.

The screening area will include the following criteria:

- Location and use of a screening table will be identified.
- The staff Screening will wear a medical grade disposable face mask and a protective face shield or goggles.
- Signage regarding proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette will be displayed at the screening area and outside the building.
- Signage will be posted for the following:
 - instructing parents to keep children home if they have specific symptoms most commonly associated with Covid-19
 - encouraging good respiratory and hand hygiene

- The health screening area will be disinfected regularly throughout screening and the day
- Floor markers or X marks will be placed in screening areas to ensure physical distancing requirements are met.
- Growing Together will move screening tables directly inside main entrances if needed due to inclement weather but staff will conduct the screening of children outside using clipboards.
- Alcohol based hand rub containing at least 70% alcohol content will be provided at screening tables.
- Anyone entering the facility will be asked perform hand hygiene upon entering and classroom staff will assist children with hand hygiene upon entering program.
- All children, staff and essential visitors will be screened before entering a Growing Together location. All screening results will be recorded on an official screening form.
- Screeners will give a copy of the "Screening Protocols for GTFRC" form to any individual who does not pass screening. The form advises them of next steps required. See Appendices #5.
- Screeners will advise site supervisors of any children, staff or essential visitors who did not pass the screening. Site supervisors will contact the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit for directions on how to proceed as needed.

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Health Screening Procedure

All Growing Together staff, children and essential visitors entering a Growing Together building will be screened with the indicated questions on the Child Care COVID-19 Screening Form.

- Health screening questions are for the parent/guardian to answer on their child's behalf.
- Staff and essential visitors are to use the main entrance and be screened as indicated above.
- Only one parent/guardian is permitted into the screening area
- As needed and with approval from a GTFRC staff member, parents/guardians will be able to enter Growing Together locations as essential visitors. Active Screening will be conducted before any essential visitor enters the building. All essential visitors must wear medical grade face masks indoors.
- Staff are not permitted past the health screening area until they have been properly screened and cleared to enter the child care centre
- Screeners will give a copy of the "Screening Protocols for GTFRC" form to any individual who does not pass screening. The form advises them of next steps required. See Appendices #5.
- The Screener will ask each individual question on the screening checklist for each person and record the outcome (pass or fail).

Any individual who fails the screening process will be refused entry into the child care and advised to contact their health care provider.

Growing Together will keep records of each person entering the facility in a daily log book. The record keeping will take place in the screening area. The supervisor of the centre will oversee the log book. Records will include name, contact information, time of arrival/departure, and the screening results. These records will be kept up to date and available to facilitate contact tracing in the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case or outbreak.

Children, staff and essential visitors should stay home from child care if they are unwell, even if they do not have symptoms that are most commonly associated with Covid-19, and monitor before returning.

Daily Records

In addition to attendance records for all children receiving child care, Growing Together will maintain daily records of anyone entering the facility and the approximate length of their stay (such as cleaners, people doing maintenance work, people providing supports for children with special needs, those delivering food).

- These records will be kept on the premises.
- Records (e.g. name, contact information, time of arrival/departure, screening completion/result, etc.) will be kept up-to-date and available to facilitate contact tracing in the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case or outbreak.

Exclusion of Symptomatic Children/Adults Protocols

Growing Together will properly complete daily screening on all children, staff and essential visitors entering the child care centre and exclude when necessary. (See When to Exclude below.)

When Children are ill and or exhibit COVID-19 related symptoms, Growing Together will ensure the following:

- Ill children will be separated from the other children into a designated exclusion room (see How to Exclude below) to be monitored by staff until parent/guardian picks up.
- Symptoms of illness will be recorded in the child's daily record and in a daily log as per the CCEYA
- The parent/ guardian of the ill child will be immediately notified to pick them up and take them home. Emergency pick up contacts should be readily available to pick up an ill child if required
- If the child is unresponsive, having trouble breathing, having a convulsion, or whose condition is deteriorating rapidly and must receive immediate medical attention, staff will call 911

When to Exclude:

As stated in the Provincial School and Childcare Screening Tool, the following are next steps to take if a child is exhibiting any common symptoms of Covid-19 as listed below:

- 1. Contact the school/child care to let them know about this result
- They must <u>isolate</u> (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency
- 3. Talk with a doctor/health care provider to get advice or an assessment, including if they need a COVID-19 test. If they have severe symptoms like chest pain or difficulty breathing, go to the nearest emergency department
- 4. Retake this screening every day before they go to school/child care

If you think they have a cold or the flu, they should still talk with a doctor or get tested. Symptoms are similar to COVID-19.

- The Provincial School and Childcare Screening Tool has been updated to reflect this change and is available at https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/. New printed copies of the screening questions will also be available at all GTFRC screening stations for parents to reference.
- Any individual that does not pass this on-site screening procedure will be asked to return home and self-isolate until they meet the criteria for return.

Common symptoms for children that may be due to COVID-19 infection include one or more of the following:

Fever and/or chills

Temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher

Cough or barking cough (croup)

Continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing (not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways, or other known causes or conditions they already have)

Shortness of breath

Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply (not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions they already have)

Decrease or loss of taste or smell

Not related to seasonal allergies, neurological disorders, or other known causes or conditions they already have

Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea

Not related to irritable bowel syndrome, anxiety, menstrual cramps, or other known causes or conditions they already have

Common symptoms for adults that may be due to COVID-19 infection include one or more of the following:

Fever and/or chills

Temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher

Cough or barking cough (croup)

Continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing (not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways, COPD, or other known causes or conditions you already have)

Shortness of breath

Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply (not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions you already have)

Decrease or loss of taste or smell

Not related to seasonal allergies, neurological disorders, or other known causes or conditions you already have

Muscle aches/joint pain

Unusual, long-lasting (not related to getting a COVID-19 vaccine in the last 48 hours, a sudden injury, fibromyalgia, or other known causes or conditions you already have)

Extreme tiredness

Unusual, fatigue, lack of energy (not related to **getting a COVID-19 vaccine in the last 48 hours**, depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction, or other known causes or conditions you already have)

If a child, staff or essential visitor received a COVID-19 vaccination in the last 48 hours and is experiencing mild headache, fatigue, muscle aches, and/or joint pain that only began after vaccination, and no other symptoms as indicated in the updated COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening Tool, they may continue to attend the child care program if they are feeling well enough to do so. If the mild headache, fatigue, muscle aches, and/or joint pain symptoms worsen, continue past 48 hours, or if the individual develops other symptoms, they should leave the child care setting to self-isolate and contact their health care provider.

Can a child, staff or essential visitor attend child care if household members are experiencing any new COVID-19 symptoms and/or are waiting for COVID-19 test results after experiencing symptoms?

- If they are fully vaccinated: they do not need to isolate and can leave the home. Follow the advice of your local public health unit.
- If they are not fully vaccinated: they must stay at home until the test results come through as negative, or are cleared by your local public health unit, or are diagnosed with another illness.

(this direction does not pertain to those who received a COVID-19 vaccination in the last 48 hours and are experiencing mild headache, fatigue, muscle aches, and/or joint pain that only began after vaccination, and no other symptoms)

Monitoring and Responding to Reports of COVID-19 Symptoms

• All child care and early years sector partners, together with Ministry of Health and Public Health will work closely to monitor and respond to reports of COVID-19 symptoms.

How to Exclude:

If an individual becomes ill while in the child care setting:

- The ill individual must be immediately separated from others, in a separate room where possible (i.e., an isolation room). Parents/guardians must be contacted for pick-up of symptomatic children.
- Symptomatic children who are separated from others must be supervised.
- Anyone providing care to the ill individual should maintain as much physical distance as possible. If physical distancing is not possible (e.g., if a young child needs comfort) staff/providers should consider added PPE (i.e., gloves, gown).
- The person caring for the individual should wear a medical mask and eye protection and be trained on proper use of PPE, including donning and doffing.
- o If the isolation room has windows, they will be opened for added ventilation.
- Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette should be practiced while the ill individual is waiting to be picked up.
- Cleaning of the area the separated individual was in and other areas of the child care setting where the ill individual was should be conducted as soon as reasonably possible after the ill individual leaves (see above in the Cleaning section).
- Growing Together will advised the parent/guardian to contact their health care provider for further direction.
- Growing Together will contact the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit for directives as needed.
- Regular child care operation can continue unless directed otherwise by the local public health
- Persons who test positive may not return to the child care setting until they are cleared by the local public health unit. Note that individuals do not need to provide a medical note or proof of negative result to return to the program.

Surveillance:

Children or staff who have been in contact with a suspected COVID-19 case should be
monitored for symptoms and grouped together until laboratory tests, if any, have been
completed or until directed by the CK public health unit. Avoid other high-risk settings and
vulnerable persons during this time.

End of Exclusion

Individuals who are tested:

- If you test negative (you do not have the virus)-You can return to school/child care if all the following apply:
 - o you do not have a fever (without using medication)
 - it has been at least 24 hours since your symptoms started improving (or 48 hours if you have had nausea/vomiting/diarrhea)
 - you were not in close physical contact with someone who currently has COVID-19
- If you test positive (you have the virus)-You can return to school/child care when:
 - o you are cleared by your local public health unit.

Individuals who are not tested:

- You must isolate for 10 days. You may be able to return earlier if **ALL** the following apply:
 - o a doctor diagnosed you with another illness
 - o you do not have a fever (without using medication)
 - it has been at least 24 hours since your symptoms started improving (or 48 hours if you have had nausea/vomiting/diarrhea)

If you do not talk with a doctor

- You must isolate for 10 days. After the 10 days, you can return only when <u>ALL</u> the following apply:
 - o you do not have a fever (without using medication)
 - o it has been at least 24 hours since your symptoms started improving (or 48 hours if you have had nausea/vomiting/diarrhea)

COVID-19 Outbreak Management

- An outbreak may be declared by CK Public Health unit when:
 - within a 14-day period, there are two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases in children, staff/providers or other visitors with an epidemiological link (e.g., cases in the same room, cases that are part of the same before/after school care cohort) where at least one case could have reasonably acquired their infection in the child care setting.
- CK Public Health unit will work with the licensee to determine whether epidemiological links

exist between cases and whether transmission may have occurred in the child care setting.

- If CK Public Health declares an outbreak, they will determine what happens next. This could include closing particular child care rooms or cohorts or an entire child care setting.
 - The public health unit will help determine which groups of children and/or staff/providers need to be sent home or if a partial or full closure of the child care setting is required.
 - If the public health unit determines that partial or full closure of the child care setting is required, the licensee must revise their existing serious occurrence report for a confirmed COVID-19 case to include information about the closure.

If an outbreak is declared at the child care centre, the following measures must be taken:

- 1) Consult with and follow directions from Public Health. 519-351-1228 ext. 2103 or 519-350-3546
- 2) Notify the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, Child Care and Early Years Division

In the event of a confirmed covid-19 case or an outbreak is declared in a Growing Together location, Growing Together will follow the direction of the CK Public Health Unit in regards to how to communicate the information to parents/guardians and staff.

Declaring an Outbreak Over:

In consultation with Public Health, the outbreak can be declared over if no new cases have occurred in 14 days from the last day of attendance of the most recent COVID-19 positive staff/child.

Surveillance:

Providers must monitor for an increase in above normal amount of illnesses among children. Ensure surveillance includes the following:

- Observe children for illness upon arrival
- Record symptoms of illness including any complaints of sore throat, headache or stomach ache
- Record date and time symptoms occur
- Record attendances and absences

Any increases in the number of ill children, must be reported to Chatham-Kent Public Health

Note: Any children returning from absence due to illness from COVID-19 or contact with a confirmed case must do so under the guidance of Chatham-Kent Public Health in conjunction with the provider of the child care centre.

Where an individual is suspected of having COVID-19 in the before and after school program setting:

- They will be isolated and parents/guardians contacted for immediate pick-up. If the sick person is a child, a child care staff will remain with the child until a parent/guardian arrives and will not interact with others.
- The ill child will be brought to the designated isolation room for the centre and will be
 monitored by a Growing Together staff. The staff will wear a disposable medical grade face mask
 and a protective face shield. If the isolation room has windows, they will be opened for added
 ventilation. If the isolation room does not have a handwashing sink, hand sanitizer will be
 available.
- The child care staff will avoid contact with the child's respiratory secretions.
- Staff member will perform hand hygiene after any contact with the ill child.
- If a separate room is not available, the ill child will be kept at a minimum of 2 metres from others. This will be achieved by using physical barriers, floor markers, etc.
- The ill child will be provided with tissues and reminded of hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, and proper disposal of tissues.
- All items used by the ill person will be cleaned and disinfected by the cleaning staff designated for that cohort. Any items that cannot be cleaned (paper, books, cardboard puzzles) will be removed and stored in a sealed container for a minimum of 7 days.
- After an ill child has been sent home, the area will be cleaned and disinfected immediately, using disposable cleaning equipment where possible.
- Growing Together will contact the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit for directives.

Serious Occurrence Reporting

Child care centre licensees have a duty to report suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 to CK Public Health under the <u>Health Protection and Promotion Act</u>.

<u>Definition of Suspected for this purpose:</u>

If there are any staff, children or essential visitors in the child care going for covid-19 testing, or there are multiple children in a specific grouping that are ill.

- Reporting Method: by email to Erin and Cara at erinc@chatham-kent.ca;
 carar@chatham-kent.ca. (Feel free to call as well if there are details you feel you need to discuss). Include the following information:
 - Number of people (No names or personal details required)
 - Staff or child(ren)
 - Reason for testing (general symptoms/reason)
 - If you have specific concerns.
- Note: Notifying Public Health with these reports may not trigger any specific reaction or response – it will be used as information to help them look at the community comprehensively to spot trends, etc.

<u>Definition of Confirmed for this purpose:</u>

If any staff, child or essential visitor has a covid-19 test and the results are positive.

- Where schools have become aware of a confirmed case of COVID-19 (i.e., a positive COVID-19 test result) associated with the school, they are responsible for reporting such a case to the local Public Health Unit and to the Ministry of Education through the daily reporting tool, as well as associated program closures as applicable.
- In addition, licensed before and after school programs operated by a child care licensee should refer to the <u>Operational Guidance During COVID-19 Outbreak: Child Care Re-</u> Opening regarding serious occurrence reporting requirements.
- Where a child, staff, or essential visitor has a confirmed case of COVID-19 (i.e., a positive COVID-19 test result), licensees must:
 - Report this as a serious occurrence to the ministry.
 - Report to the local public health unit and provide any materials (e.g., daily attendance records) to public health officials to support case management and contact tracing and other activities in accordance with all applicable legislation, including the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.
- Public health officials will determine any additional steps required, including but not limited to how to monitor for other possible infected staff/providers and children and the declaration of an outbreak and closure of rooms and/or entire child care settings.
 - If a closure is ordered by the local public health unit and the licensee has already submitted a serious occurrence for a confirmed case, the existing serious occurrence must be updated to reflect the closure.
- Should additional individuals at the child care program develop a confirmed case, licensees must either:
 - o Revise the open serious occurrence report to include the additional cases; or,
 - Submit a new serious occurrence report if the first has been closed already.
- While licensees are no longer required to report a serious occurrence for suspected cases; if the local public health unit determines that a full or partial closure is required (i.e., program room or entire child care centre must remain closed for a period of time), a serious occurrence report must be submitted under the "Unplanned Disruption of Service" category. Please also note there are requirements of employers to let workers know if they may have been exposed in the workplace. Please see the guide on developing a COVID-19 workplace safety plan for more information.
- Growing Together will follow their usual process for serious occurrences, per the Ministry of Education (including posting).

Travel Outside of Canada

• Children travelling outside of Canada may not attend school or child care for 14 days upon their return as stated in the federal quarantine requirements. Unvaccinated children under the age of 12 are exempt from federal quarantine if they travelled with a

- fully vaccinated companion, but they may not attend school or child care for 14 days upon their return as indicated in the federal guidelines.
- Fully vaccinated staff and Essential Visitors who travel outside of Canada do not need to quarantine when they return to Canada unless they are directed to do so. They are able to return to Growing Together and follow all Covid Protocols in place.
- Unvaccinated staff and Essential Visitors will need to follow the direction of their health care provider in regards to quarantine when travelling outside of Canada.
- The following link has additional information regarding travel requirements.

https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/fully-vaccinated-travellers-without-covid-19-symptoms-returning-canada.html

• Individuals with all other quarantine exemptions (e.g., travelling for crossborder custody arrangements; travelling for medical treatment) may continue to attend school or child care if approved by a health care provider.

Staff Safety

Protecting Yourself and Co-Workers

The virus typically spreads through coughing and sneezing, personal contact with an infected person, or touching an infected surface and then face – mouth, nose or eyes.

Here is some general guidance and helpful tips to help prevent the spread of germs:

- Wear Personal Protective Equipment when in a child care centre.
- Maintain physical distancing of at least 2 meters (6 feet) whenever possible
- Staff will not work at more than one child care location unless absolutely necessary in an emergency situation, though they may work at another job outside of child care.
- Supervisors and/or designates should limit their movement between rooms, doing so when absolutely necessary.
- Supply/replacement staff should be assigned to a specific cohort so as to limit staff
 interaction with multiple cohorts. (Staff should only be included in two cohorts if
 possible per week.)
- Promote good hand washing and respiratory hygiene
- Minimize contact with people who are sick, and stay at home if you are sick
- Where possible, wear gloves when interacting with high-touch areas, using proper donning/doffing procedures.
- Change out of work clothing at the end of each shift and wash them. Do not store your street clothes and work clothing in the same space unless both are clean.
- Limit the amount of face-to-face contact during work activities, and limit any casual interactions that normally occur at work.
- Follow posted capacity signs in lunchrooms and break rooms and follow physical distancing practices. (Several locations have secondary lunch and break rooms set up to accommodate physical distancing.)

Hand Hygiene

Appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette are among the most important protective strategies. Child care staff, Essential Visitors and students will be trained on proper hand washing and able to assist children on appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, including the use of alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR), and reinforcing its use.

Hand hygiene should be conducted by anyone entering the child care setting and incorporated into the daily schedule at regular intervals during the day, above and beyond what is usually recommended (for example, before eating food, after using the washroom).

Hand Hygiene is a general term referring to any action of hand cleaning. Hand hygiene relates to the removal of visible soil and removal or killing of transient microorganisms from the hands. Hand hygiene may be accomplished using soap and running water or a hand sanitizer (at least 70% alcohol based). Hand washing with soap and running water must be performed when hands are visibly soiled. **Hand washing using soap and water, wherever possible, is recommended over alcohol-based hand rub.** Perform and promote frequent, proper hand hygiene (including supervising or assisting participants with hand hygiene). Hand washing using soap and water is recommended over alcohol-based hand rub for children.

Hand Hygiene Procedure

Hands carry and spread germs. Touching your eyes, nose, mouth, sneezing, or coughing into your hands may provide an opportunity for germs to get into your body or spread to others. Keeping your hands clean through good hygiene practice is one of the most important steps to avoid getting sick and spreading germs.

Ensure that employees and children are always practicing proper hand hygiene (including assisting children with hand hygiene) when hands are visibly dirty and/or after;

- Sneezing, coughing, or blowing your nose
- Using the washroom
- Handling garbage
- Handling raw foods
- Outdoor play
- Toileting/diapering routine
- Handling soiled laundry or dishes
- Handling soiled toys or other items
- Coming into contact with bodily fluids
- Coming into contact with any soiled/mouthed items
- Gardening

Hands should be cleaned using soap and water or hand sanitizer before and after:

- Preparing, handling, serving and eating food
- Handling animals
- Touching a cut or open sore
- Changing diapers
- Glove use
- Dispensing/handling expressed breast milk

^{*}Also incorporate additional hand hygiene opportunities into the daily schedules

- Before and after giving medication
- Communal sensory play activity

When hands are visibly soiled, follow these steps for cleaning hands:

- Wet hands and Apply soap
- Lather for at least 15 seconds. Rub between fingers, back of hands, fingertips, under nails
- Rinse well under running water
- Dry hands well with paper towel or hot air blower
- Turn taps off with paper towel, if available

When hands are not visibly soiled and a hand-washing station is not accessible, follow these steps for cleaning hands:

- Apply hand sanitizer (at least 70% alcohol-based)
- Rub hands together for at least 15 seconds
- · Work sanitizer between fingers, back of hands, fingertips, and under nails
- Rub hands until dry

Hand Hygiene Monitoring

To ensure that employees are using proper hand hygiene methods, supervisors will review hand hygiene practices on a regular basis and provide feedback to employees as required.

Hand Sanitizing Information

When your hands are not visible dirty, hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol base, can be used. Hand sanitizers can only be used on children who are over the age of two and must always be used under adult supervision. Adults must ensure that the product has completely evaporated from the child's hands before allowing the child to continue their activity. Growing Together requires Parent consent forms to be signed before staff are able to use hand sanitizer on children in our programs. Growing Together will distribute consent forms to parent for FDK and school age children only. If a consent form is not completed, the child will only sanitize their hands using soap and water. Growing Together will not administer hand sanitizer on children in preschool and younger programs. Children under the age of 2 are not permitted to ever have hand sanitizer applied in our programs.

Glove Use

Gloves shall be worn when it is anticipated that hands will come into contact with mucous membranes, broken skin, tissue, blood, bodily fluids, secretions, excretions, contaminated equipment or environmental surfaces. Nitrile gloves are single use only.

Hand hygiene shall be practiced before applying and after removing gloves. Gloves shall be removed and discarded after use.

To reduce hand irritation related to gloves:

- Wear gloves for as short as time as possible
- Ensure that hands are clean and dry before wearing gloves

- Ensure gloves are intact, clean and dry inside
- Gloves are single use only, and must be task specific such as nitrile gloves for diaper changes

Covering Your Cough Procedure

Germs, such as influenza and cold viruses, are spread by coughing and/or sneezing. When you cough or sneeze on your hands, your hands carry and spread these germs.

Keep your distance (preferably more than 2 metres/6 feet) from people who are coughing or sneezing. Follow these steps to stop the spread of germs:

- If you have a tissue, cover your mouth and nose when you cough, sneeze or blow your nose
- Put used tissues in the garbage
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your sleeve, not in your hands
- Clean your hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer

Applying Lotion

If applying lotion, sunscreen, etc. to a child, gloves are not necessary. Staff will use proper hand hygiene before and after each application.

Cohorts

- Children will be in cohorts according to their age range; ex. Infant, Toddler, Preschool, FDK, School Age.
- Cohorts will be able to combine with a maximum of 5 children from different cohorts during the first 1.5 hours in the morning and 1 hour before closing.
- Infants are not able to combine with any other cohort.
- Records will be kept with details around cohorts that combined to assist in contact tracing if necessary.
- Growing Together will mix the minimum amount of groups possible and be consistent with groups combining. When combining cohorts, physical distancing between the two groups will be maintained as much as possible.

Space Set-Up and Physical Distancing

Physical distancing between children in a child care setting can be difficult to maintain: however, it is an important strategy that should be encouraged whenever possible.

It is also important to maintain a welcoming and caring environment for children. Please see the document <u>Building On How Does Learning Happen?</u> for more support and ideas on how to provide an engaging environment while physically distancing.

- When in the same common space (e.g., entrances, hallways), physical distancing of at least 2 metres must be maintained between different groups/cohorts
- When setting up the play space, physical distancing of at least 2 metres must be maintained between cohorts and should be encouraged, where possible, between children within the same cohort. The following are examples of ways to encourage physical distancing:
 - Spreading children out into different areas, particularly at meal and dressing time;
 - Incorporating more individual activities or activities that encourage more space between children
 - Using visual cues to promote physical distancing.
- Where two cohorts are using the same indoor space (e.g. gym), each cohort will have their own assigned indoor space, separated from all other cohorts by a physical barrier. Growing Together will ensure that a physical barrier is in place to ensure that physical distancing of at least 2 meters between cohorts is maintained. The physical barrier will begin at the floor and reach a minimum height of 8 feet. The purpose of the barrier is to ensure the spread of respiratory droplets and reinforce physical distancing requirements between cohorts.
- In shared outdoor space, mixing between groups is permitted, though physical distancing should be encouraged between groups as much as possible.
- The distance between cots will be 6 feet or 3 feet if children are place head to toe. In infant programs, only every other crib will be used in sleep rooms.
- Shared spaces and structures that cannot be cleaned and disinfected between cohorts should not be used.
- Recognizing that physical distancing is difficult with small children and infants, additional suggestions include:
 - o planning activities that do not involve shared objects or toys
 - o when possible, moving activities outside to allow for more space
- Avoid getting close to faces of all children, where possible Staff will encourage more physical space between children by:
 - Spreading children out into different areas
 - Staggering, or alternating lunchtime and outdoor playtime
 - Cots are to be stacked in a manner in which there is no contact with the sleeping surface of another cot
- Singing is permitted indoors; masking is encouraged but not required for singing indoors if a
 minimum of two metres distance can be maintained between cohorts and as much
 distancing as possible maintained within a cohort.

Addition Precautions:

- Licensees are encouraged to provide toys and equipment which are made of materials that can be cleaned and disinfected (e.g., avoid plush toys) as much as possible.
- Windows should be opened whenever possible and fans used to disperse air in the playrooms.
- During meal times, staff will portion out and serve children.
- Chairs will be positioned as far apart as possible at tables to maintain physical distancing. (A table that typically had 8 chairs, will now have 2-4 chairs depending on the size.)

- Staff will separate the group as much as possible. Example-one group outside and one group inside.
- Limit number of children in bathroom at one time. Recommended to have only 1 child if possible.
- When changing diapers with child standing, face child away from you.
- Only disposable diapers and wipes will be permitted.
- Only kitchen staff will be permitted in the kitchens.
- Kitchen staff will deliver and pick up meal carts in the hallway outside of each playroom to limit the number of people enter rooms.
- Administration will send staff their hours for the week ahead of time and a detailed schedule
 around staff lunch and break times. The schedule will also show in detail the separate cohorts
 and staff assigned to each one. Screeners, staff walking children and cleaning times for common
 areas will also be indicated on the schedule.
- Staff rooms have a maximum occupancy sign posted. In addition, several locations have a secondary staff room set up with maximum occupancy signs posted to accommodate staff breaks and lunches and ensure physical distancing measures are followed.
- All parent/guardian, staff and board meetings will occur via phone, computer or in person if physical distancing is maintained.
- Licensees should continue to encourage staff and home child care providers to supervise
 and hold bottles for infants not yet able to hold their own bottle to reduce the risk of
 choking.
- Recognizing that physical distancing is difficult with small children and infants, suggestions
 to support physical distancing include when possible, moving activities outside to allow for
 more space.

Physical Activities

- High contact physical activities should take place in outdoor settings only. Masking is not required outdoors for high contact physical activities.
- Low contact activities are permitted indoors. For children in grade 1 and up, masking is encouraged but not required if a minimum of two metres distance can be maintained between groups and as much as possible within a group.

Field Trips

- Field trips are permitted as per the <u>Reopening Ontario Act</u>. At this time field trips will be minimal. Children will be cohorted throughout the duration of the trip. Ratios will be maintained as set out in the CCEYA.
- Health and safety requirements set out in the guidelines and regulations (e.g. masking, eye
 protection) and of the place being visited will continue to apply.
- Daily accurate records of individuals attending field trips (name, contact information, time
 of arrival/departure, transportation, and location visited) will be kept to facilitate contact
 tracing.

For Before & After School Programming: For field trips, anyone entering the area will be screened upon arrival and the pick-up/drop-off of children should happen outside of the area or within a designated and isolated area. Health and safety requirements set out in the guidelines and regulations (e.g. masking, eye protection) and of the place being visited will continue to apply.

Use of gymnasiums for before and after school programs

- Before and after school programs may provide opportunities for physical activity for children and youth. Children and staff will not be engaged in moderate to vigorous physical activity indoors. When moderate to vigorous physical activity takes place outdoors, children and staff will maintain physical distancing. Masks should not be worn for high intensity activity.
- Gymnasiums will only be used for moderate activity where physical distancing measures and current masking protocols for children and program staff can be followed.
- As program staff plan physical activities that support physical distancing, they will
 include masking for children and staff in indoor settings as well as outdoors when
 physical distancing cannot be maintained. Efforts will be made to limit the use of
 shared equipment. Shared equipment will be disinfected regularly and children and
 program staff will practice proper hand hygiene before and after participating in
 physical activity and equipment use.
- At this time, sanitizing outdoor structures on playgrounds is not required, but rather, before and after school programs will focus on maintaining distance and limiting total gathering size on playgrounds and following masking protocols when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

Ventilation

Growing Together will optimize ventilation by:

- opening windows
- moving activities outdoors when possible
- mechanical ventilation including HVAC systems

Heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems (HVACs) and their filters are designed to reduce airborne pollutants, including virus particles, when they circulate through the system.

- Ensure HVAC systems are in good working condition.
- Keep areas near HVAC inlets and outlets clear.
- Arrange furniture away from air vents and high airflow areas.
- Avoid re-circulating air.

While ventilation is important, it must be used along with other public health measures. There is not one public health measure that can guarantee protection from COVID-19; multiple strategies

are needed. Other measures include symptom screening and self-isolation for people with symptoms, practicing physical distancing, wearing a mask, and practicing good hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.

Provision of Special Needs Resources (SNR)

- The ministry recognizes that children with special needs and their families continue to require additional supports and services in child care settings.
- The provision of in-person special needs services in child care settings will continue where appropriate and licensees may use their discretion to determine whether the services being provided are necessary at this time.
- GTFRC will work with special needs service providers to explore alternative modes of service delivery where in-person delivery is not possible.
- All SNR staff will have their daily self-screening results validated on-site before entering the
 child care setting and must follow all health and safety measures that staff/providers follow,
 including having their attendance logged, practicing proper hand hygiene, wearing a
 medical mask and eye protection (as necessary), and maintaining physical distancing as
 much as possible.
- Licensees and SNR service providers will work together to determine who will be responsible for ensuring SNR staff have appropriate PPE.

Mental Health

The ministry recognizes the detrimental impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children's mental health and well-being. The ministry's <u>Building on How Does Learning Happen?</u> supports the operation of early years and child care programs in Ontario during the COVID-19 outbreak. It provides information on how early years settings can support the social and emotional health and wellbeing of children and families, in addition to safe and healthy environments.

Early years and child care program providers are also encouraged to collaborate with child and youth mental health agencies to support strong connections and make the best use of mental health resources and supports across the integrated system of care.

Enhanced Childcare Cleaning Chart-Appendices #1

*Please record time and initial each item after completed.

Item Cleaned	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Daily	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
-					
Children's					
belongings					
labelled & stored					
in designated area					
Staff sanitize					
hands upon arrival					
& frequently					
throughout day					
Children sanitize					
hands upon arrival					
and frequently					
throughout day					
All toys put in					
child's mouth are					
disinfected					
Indoor Toys are					
disinfected daily					
for infants and					
weekly for all					
other programs					
Tables, chairs &					
highchairs before					
and after use					
Food Prep areas					
before & after use					
High touch					
surfaces					
disinfected once					
daily					
Low touch					
surfaces					
disinfected daily					
Shared items					
disinfected					
between users					
each time					
ex. I-pads					
Potty chairs,					
diaper mats					
disinfected after					
each use					
Toilets cleaned					
frequently and					
between each					
cohort					
For diaper creams					
and lotions, use					
single-use gloves					
(only put glove in					
container once. If					

more is needed					
get a new glove.)					
Avoid close face					
contact					
High touch					
surfaces on cots					
Items Cleaned	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Weekly					-
*Initial Day cleaning					
is complete					
Shelves					
Equipment in					
room					
Fabric covered					
furniture					
Cots and Cribs					

Please Note:

- High touch surfaces include surfaces such as faucets, flushing handles, toilet seats, light switches, shelving, containers, hand rails, door knobs, etc.
- Low touch surfaces include window ledges, doors, sides of cabinets, furniture, etc.
- These are all minimum requirements.

Common Areas Enhanced Childcare Cleaning Chart-

*Please record time and initial each item after completed.

Item Cleaned Daily	Monday Date:	Tuesday Date:	Wednesday Date:	Thursday Date:	Friday Date:
Children's belongings labelled & stored in designated area					
Staff sanitize hands upon arrival & frequently throughout day					
Children sanitize hands upon arrival and frequently throughout day					
High touch surfaces disinfected once daily (Including staff and public washrooms)					
Low touch surfaces disinfected daily					
Shared items disinfected between users each time ex. I-pads					
Items Cleaned Weekly *Initial Day cleaning is complete	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Staff Room Fridges					
All surfaces in staff room					

Please Note:

- High touch surfaces include surfaces such as faucets, flushing handles, toilet seats, light switches, shelving, containers, hand rails, door knobs, etc.
- Low touch surfaces include window ledges, doors, sides of cabinets, furniture, etc.
- These are all minimum requirements.

Kitchen Enhanced Childcare Cleaning Chart-

*Please record time and initial each item after completed.

Item Cleaned	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Daily	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:	Date:
All items children					
bring from home					
entering the kitchen are					
labelled and					
Disinfected-					
including lunch					
pails Staff sanitize					
hands upon arrival					
& frequently					
throughout day					
High touch					
surfaces					
disinfected once					
<mark>daily</mark>					
Low touch					
surfaces					
disinfected daily					
Shared items					
disinfected					
between users					
each time					
ex. Pens					
Items Cleaned	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Weekly				_	-
*Initial Day cleaning					
is complete					
Fridges					
All surfaces in					
kitchen					

Please Note:

- High touch surfaces include surfaces such as faucets, flushing handles, toilet seats, light switches, shelving, containers, hand rails, door knobs, etc.
- Low touch surfaces include window ledges, doors, sides of cabinets, furniture, etc.
- These are all minimum requirements.

Screening Logs-Appendices # 2

Screening Sheet for Children

Growing Together COVID-19 Screening for Children Entering Child Care

Date: Week of		Site:	Site: Growing Together @	
Child's Name:	Date:	Have you completed the online screening with your child and did they pass?	Does your child have: -fever and/or chills -Continuous cough or barking cough -Shortness of breath -Decrease or loss of taste or smell -Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea -If the child received a GONG vaccination in the last 48 hours and are feeling these symptoms after the vaccination, select "NO"	Comments:
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	
		○ Yes ○ No	○ Yes ○ No	

Ministry of Health | Ministry of Education



COVID-19 screening tool for students and children in school and child care settings

Version 3: October 18, 2021

Students and children must screen for COVID-19 every day before going to school or child care. Parents/guardians can fill this out on behalf of a child.

(mm-	dd-yyy	y)

Screening questions

1. Is the student/child currently experiencing any of these symptoms?

The symptoms listed here are the symptoms most commonly associated with COVID-19. If you have these symptoms, you should isolate and seek testing. Please note that rapid antigen testing is not to be used for those with symptoms of COVID-19 or for contacts of known COVID-19 cases.

Anyone who is sick or has any symptoms of illness, including those not listed below, should stay home and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed.

Choose any/all that are new, worsening, and not related to other known causes or conditions they already have.

Fever and/or chills Temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher and/or chills	☐ Yes	□ No
Cough or barking cough (croup) Continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing (not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways, or other known causes or conditions they already have)	□ Yes	□ No
Shortness of breath Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply (not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions they already have)	□ Yes	□ No
Decrease or loss of taste or smell Not related to seasonal allergies, neurological disorders, or other known causes or conditions they already have	□ Yes	□ No
Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Not related to irritable bowel syndrome, anxiety, menstrual cramps, or other known causes or conditions they already have	□ Yes	□ No

2. Do any of the following apply to the student/child?

- They are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (it has been 14 days or more since their final dose
 of either a two-dose or a one-dose vaccine series)
- They have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days (and since been cleared)

If YES, skip questions 3, 4, 5

Personal health information is not collected when you complete this screening tool. The purpose of this question is to provide accurate isolation instructions, which are based on vaccination status and previous infection history.

3.	Is someone that the student/child lives with currently experiencing any new COVID-19 symptoms and/or waiting for test results after experiencing symptoms?	☐ Yes	□ No
	Children (<18 years old): fever and/or chills, cough or barking cough, shortness of breath, decrease or loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea		
	Adults: (≥18 years old): fever and/or chills, cough or barking cough, shortness of breath, decrease or loss of taste or smell, tiredness, muscle aches		
	If the individual experiencing symptoms received a COVID-19 vaccination in the last 48 hours and is experiencing only mild fatigue, muscle aches, and/or joint pain that only began after vaccination, select "No."		
4.	In the last 10 days, has the student/child been identified as a "close contact" of someone who currently has COVID-19? If public health has advised you that you do not need to self-isolate, select "No."	□ Yes	□ No
		El Ve-	
э.	In the last 10 days, has the student/child received a COVID Alert exposure notification on their cell phone? If the student/child has since tested negative on a lab-based PCR test, select "No."	□ Yes	□ No
6.	Do any of the following apply?	☐ Yes	□ No
6.	Do any of the following apply? In the last 14 days, the student/child travelled outside of Canada and was told to quarantine	□ Yes	□ No
5.	In the last 14 days, the student/child travelled outside of Canada and	□ Yes	□ No
6.	 In the last 14 days, the student/child travelled outside of Canada and was told to quarantine In the last 14 days, the student/child travelled outside of Canada and 	□ Yes	□ No
	In the last 14 days, the student/child travelled outside of Canada and was told to quarantine In the last 14 days, the student/child travelled outside of Canada and was told to not attend school/child care Please note that if the child/student is not fully vaccinated but is exempt from federal quarantine because they travelled with a vaccinated companion. they must not attend school or child care for 14 days. Select "yes" if this applies	□ Yes	□ No

Results of screening questions



If you answered "YES" to any of the symptoms included under question 1, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Talk with a doctor/health care provider to get advice or an assessment, including if the student/child needs a COVID-19 test.
 - Siblings or other people in your household must stay at home until the student/child showing symptoms tests negative, or is cleared by your public health unit, or is diagnosed with another illness. Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.
- · Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.



If you answered "YES" to question 3, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- The student/child can return to school or child care after the individual with symptoms tests negative, is cleared by your local public health unit, or is diagnosed with another illness.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.



If you answered "YES" to question 4, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) for 10 days and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Follow the advice of your local public health unit or a health care provider, including which symptoms to monitor for and when to get a COVID-19 PCR test. Please note that rapid antigen testing is not to be used for contacts of known COVID-19 cases.
- The student/child can only return to school/child care after 10 days, even if they get a negative
 test result, as long as they do not develop any symptoms.
 - Siblings and other people in your household can go to school, child care or work, but must
 not leave the home for other non-essential reasons. Household members who are fully
 vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been
 cleared are not required to stay home.
- If the student/child develops any of the symptoms listed above or tests positive, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
- · Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.



If you answered "YES" to question 5, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Visit an assessment centre to get them a COVID-19 test.
 - If they test negative on a PCR test (they do not have the virus), they can return to school/child care.
 - If they test positive on a PCR test (they have the virus), they need to continue isolating and can return only after they are cleared by your local public health unit.
- If they develop symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice
 - Siblings or other people in your household can go to school, child care or work, but must not leave the home for other, non-essential reasons until the individual who got the COVID alert tests negative on a PCR test, or is cleared by your local public health unit. Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.
- · Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.



If you answered "YES" to question 6, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must follow federal guidelines for individuals who have travelled internationally, including not going to school/child care for 14 days after their arrival and getting tested as per federal requirements.
- If the student/child has been directed to quarantine, they must stay home for 14 days and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency. For more information on federal requirements for travellers, please see the Government of Canada's website.
- If the student/child develops symptoms and/or tests positive, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
- · Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.



If you answered "YES" to guestion 7, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Follow the advice of public health. The student/child can return to school/child care after they are cleared by your local public health unit.
- If the student/child develops symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/ health care provider for more advice.
 - Siblings or other people in your household must stay at home until the student/child tests negative, or is cleared by your public health unit. Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.
- · Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.



If you answered "YES" to question 8, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- · Visit an assessment centre to get them a COVID-19 test.
 - If they test negative on a PCR test (they do not have the virus), they can return to school/ child care.
 - If they test positive on a PCR test (they have the virus), they need to continue isolating and can return only after they are cleared by your local public health unit.
- If they develop symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
- Siblings or other people in your household must isolate until the individual who tested positive
 on the rapid antigen test or home-based self-testing kit tests negative on a PCR test or is
 cleared by the local public health unit. Household members who are fully vaccinated or
 previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not
 required to isolate.
- · Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result



If you answered "NO" to all questions, your child may go to school/child care. Follow your school/child care provider's established process for letting staff know about this result.

- As per regular protocols, all sick individuals with any symptoms of illness should stay home and seek assessment from their regular health care provider if required.
- Individuals with severe symptoms requiring emergency care should go to their nearest emergency department.
- If an individual develops symptoms outside of the list above, the Public Health Unit may recommend other measures including testing based on an assessment of the individual's symptoms and exposure history.



Child Care COVID-19 Screening for Adults Entering Child Care (Employees and Visitors)



List of SYMPTOMS: Fever and/ or chills ● Cough/or barking cough (croup) ● Shortness of breath ● Decrease or loss of taste or smell ● Tiredness ● Muscle aches

																				Adult's Name
																				Time In
																				Time Out
□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	□Staff □Other	Staff or Other (Essential Visitor, etc.)
□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	Temperature: 37.8°C or higher?
□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	1. Are you experiencing 2. Did you resolve any new or worsening (or second in a Many new or worsening) (or second in a Many new or worsening) (or second in a Many season alleriges, or vaccination dose reaction of the season such as the seaso
<u>□Yes</u> □ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	☐Yes ☐ No if Yes, skip to #6	na final o-dose more or ositive se last since
□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	GYes G No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	GYes G No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	GYes G No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	GYes G No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	GYes G No	OYes O No	3. Is anyone you live 4. In the last 10 with experiencing days, have you any new COVID-19 been identified a symptoms andor a "close contact" of someone with the sesuits after currently has covperiencing COVID-19?
□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	GYes G No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	GYes G No	GYes G No	OYes O No	OYes O No	GYes G No	GYes G No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	GYes G No	OYes O No	4. In the last 10 days, have you days, have you are identified as a "close contact" of someone who currently has COVID-19?
□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	DYes D No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	DYes D No	OYes O No	OYes O No	5. In the last 10 days, have you days, have you received a COVID Alert exposure notification on your cell phone?
OYes O No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	6. In the last 14 days, have you travelled outside of Canada and been advised to quarantine as per the federal requirements?
□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	DYes D No	DYes D No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	DYes D No	OYes O No	OYes O No	7. Has a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit told you that you should currently be isolating (staying at home)?
DYes D No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	DYes D No	DYes D No	□Yes □ No	OYes O No	OYes O No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	□Yes □ No	DYes D No	DYes D No	DYes D No	OYes O No	OYes O No	DYes D No	DYes D No	OYes O No	OYes O No	8. In the last 10 days, have you tested positive on a rapid antigen test or a home-based self-testing kit?
																				Comments / Phone # / Pre-screened?

Updated Aug 31 202



Parent/Guardian Agreement-Appendices #3

Revised September 1st, 2021

Under Provincial direction, Growing Together Family Resource Centre may operate following strict health and safety protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to ensure the safety of child care staff, children and their families.

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously seen in humans. The virus can cause symptoms like the common cold but can advance, in some cases, to severe respiratory illness or even death. COVID-19 can be spread from person to person, usually after close contact with someone infected with the virus.

Health and Illness Protocol for COVID-19

Children who are ill should **NOT** attend Growing Together.

To manage the risk of spreading illness within Growing Together, the Chatham Kent Public Health Unit has provided direction on cleaning/sanitation protocols and personal health care practices including frequent hand washing. Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit also recommends daily screening of all individuals entering the childcare centre. This includes children, staff and Essential visitors. Individuals must get a PASS on the screening to enter the building. In addition to daily screening, all children will be monitored throughout the day for emerging signs or symptoms of illness.

COVID-19 screening results, including contact information, collected by Growing Together during the screening process, may be provided to the Chatham Kent Public Health Unit, to help manage and reduce the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus in the child care centre.

As a Parent/Guardian, you can prevent the spread of illness by keeping your child(ren) home from the program if your child(ren) are ill.

Screening:

• To protect the health of all individuals at Growing Together, staff will support the arrival and pick up routine for families. Parents or Guardians will be responsible to complete on-line screening at https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/ with their child(ren) before they arrive at their Growing Together location daily. A printed version of the screening will also be available at the screening table for parents to review if they do not have access to the online site. A Growing Together staff will complete a condensed screening with all children

- upon arrival. The child must pass the screen before entering the child care centre. See Childcare Health Screening Log, Appendices #2.
- Once screening is completed and the child(ren) PASS, Growing Together staff will escort the child(ren) to their appropriate playrooms. Parents/guardians can access the building for essential reasons only and approval will be given by GTFRC staff. Pick-up and drop-off of child(ren) will occur outside the child care setting at designated Screening Stations.

The following are the symptoms most commonly associated with Covid-19. If an individual has any of the following symptoms, they will not be able to attend a Growing Together location:

Fever and/or chills

Temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher

Cough or barking cough (croup)

Continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing (not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways, or other known causes or conditions they already have)

Shortness of breath

Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply (not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions they already have)

Decrease or loss of taste or smell

Not related to seasonal allergies, neurological disorders, or other known causes or conditions they already have

Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea

Not related to irritable bowel syndrome, anxiety, menstrual cramps, or other known causes or conditions they already have

As stated in the Provincial School and Childcare Screening Tool, the following are next steps to take if a child is exhibiting any common symptoms of Covid-19 as listed below:

- 1. Contact the school/child care to let them know about this result
- 2. They must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency
- Talk with a doctor/health care provider to get advice or an assessment, including if they need a COVID-19 test. If they have severe symptoms like chest pain or difficulty breathing, go to the nearest emergency department
- 4. Retake this screening every day before they go to school/child care

If you think they have a cold or the flu, they should still talk with a doctor or get tested. Symptoms are similar to COVID-19.

If a child, staff or essential visitor received a COVID-19 vaccination in the last 48 hours and is experiencing mild headache, fatigue, muscle aches, and/or joint pain that only began after vaccination,

and no other symptoms as indicated in the updated COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening Tool, they may continue to attend the child care program if they are feeling well enough to do so. If the mild headache, fatigue, muscle aches, and/or joint pain symptoms worsen, continue past 48 hours, or if the individual develops other symptoms, they should leave the child care setting to self-isolate and contact their health care provider.

Can a child, staff or essential visitor attend child care if household members are experiencing any new COVID-19 symptoms and/or are waiting for COVID-19 test results after experiencing symptoms?

- o **If they are fully vaccinated:** they **do not** need to isolate and can leave the home. Follow the advice of your local public health unit.
- If they are not fully vaccinated: they must stay at home until the test results come through as negative, or are cleared by your local public health unit, or are diagnosed with another illness.

(this direction does not pertain to those who received a COVID-19 vaccination in the last 48 hours and are experiencing mild headache, fatigue, muscle aches, and/or joint pain that only began after vaccination, and no other symptoms)

End of Exclusion

Individuals who are tested:

- If you test negative (you do not have the virus)-You can return to school/child care if all the following apply:
 - you do not have a fever (without using medication)
 - it has been at least 24 hours since your symptoms started improving (or 48 hours if you have had nausea/vomiting/diarrhea)
 - you were not in close physical contact with someone who currently has COVID 19
- If you test positive (you have the virus)-You can return to school/child care when:
 - o you are cleared by your local public health unit.

Individuals who are not tested:

- You must isolate for 10 days. You may be able to return earlier if <u>ALL</u> the following apply:
 - a doctor diagnosed you with another illness
 - you do not have a fever (without using medication)
 - it has been at least 24 hours since your symptoms started improving (or 48 hours if you have had nausea/vomiting/diarrhea)

If you do not talk with a doctor

- You must isolate for 10 days. After the 10 days, you can return only when <u>ALL</u> the following apply:
 - o you do not have a fever (without using medication)
 - it has been at least 24 hours since your symptoms started improving (or 48 hours if you have had nausea/vomiting/diarrhea)

As a Parent/Guardian responsible for my child(ren)'s child care placement, I agree to the following:
 □ I have read and understood the above information □ I understand the risk of illness associated with placing my child(ren) in child care services □ I agree to all screening requirements and to accurately respond to all screening questions, for a persons entering the centre. Misrepresentation on any screening questions, including temperatures or masking fevers with medication could result in the termination of my child car placement
☐ I will not administer any medication to my child(ren) that may mask the symptoms of illness, such as Tylenol or Advil, prior to dropping my child(ren) off at Growing Together
☐ I agree to exclude my child from Growing Together immediately upon observing any of the above signs or symptoms of illness until medically deemed able to return to care
Parent Name:
Parent Signature:
a. c., c., c., c., c., c., c., c., c., c.
Date:

COVID-19 Screening

Notice with Respect to the Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Health Information

The information pertaining to your COVID-19 Screening is being collected, used and disclosed under the authority of the Health Protection and Promotion Act R.S.O 1990 c.H.7 and will be retained, used, disclosed and disposed of in accordance with all applicable municipal, federal and provincial laws and regulations governing the collection, use, disclosure and disposal of information including the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act R.S.O. 1990 c.M.5 and the Personal Health Information Protection Act 2004 S.O. 2004 c.3.

Screening Protocols for GTFRC

Appendices #5

- Parents are asked to complete the Covid-19 School and Childcare screening tool online before dropping their children off at GTFRC. Printed copies will also be available at the sceening desk. GTFRC Screeners will complete a condensed screen to verify the online screen was complete, a passing score was received, no symptoms are present.
- Staff and Essential Visitors are to complete the full screening onsite which includes a temperature check and contact information for visitors.

If an individual has any of the following symptoms, they will not be able to attend a Growing Together location:

Fever and/or chills

Temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher

Cough or barking cough (croup)

Continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing (not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways, or other known causes or conditions they already have)

Shortness of breath

Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply (not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions they already have)

Decrease or loss of taste or smell

Not related to seasonal allergies, neurological disorders, or other known causes or conditions they already have

Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea

Not related to irritable bowel syndrome, anxiety, menstrual cramps, or other known causes or conditions they already have

Next steps

As stated in the school and childcare screening tool, the following are next steps to take if a child is exhibiting any of the above symptoms:

1. Contact the school/child care to let them know about this result

- 2. They must <u>isolate</u> (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency
- 3. Talk with a doctor/health care provider to get advice or an assessment, including if they need a COVID-19 test. If they have severe symptoms like chest pain or difficulty breathing, go to the nearest emergency department
- 4. Retake this screening every day before they go to school/child care

If you think they have a cold or the flu, they should still talk with a doctor or get tested. Symptoms are similar to COVID-19.

Siblings or other people you live with

If they are fully vaccinated: they **do not** need to isolate and can leave the home. Follow the advice of your local public health unit.

If they are not fully vaccinated: they must stay at home until the student showing symptoms tests negative, or is cleared by your local public health unit, or is diagnosed with another illness.

Going to school/child care again

Not sure about returning? Talk with a health care provider.

If they test negative (they do not have the virus)

They can return to school/child care if all the following apply:

- they do not have a fever (without using medication)
- it has been at least 24 hours since their symptoms started improving (or 48 hours if they have had nausea/vomiting/diarrhea)
- they were not in close physical contact with someone who currently has COVID-19

If they test positive (they have the virus)

They can return to school/child care only when they are cleared by your local public health unit.

If they do not get tested

They must isolate for 10 days. They may be able to return earlier if **all** the following apply:

- a doctor diagnosed them with another illness
- they do not have a fever (without using medication)
- it has been at least 24 hours since their symptoms started improving (or 48 hours if they have had nausea/vomiting/diarrhea)

If you do not talk with a doctor

They must isolate for 10 days. After the 10 days, they can return only when **all** the following apply:

- they do not have a fever (without using medication)
- it has been at least 24 hours since their symptoms started improving (or 48 hours if they have had nausea/vomiting/diarrhea)

If Covid Testing is required, parents can contact the Chatham Assessment Centre at (519)436-2556 or online at www.assessmentbooking.ca

Growing Together After School Screening Chart-Appendices #6

- Growing Together will screen all children attending the GTFRC FDK and School Age before school program. This includes taking each child's temperature.
- Parents/Guardians are required to screen their children daily before attending School. Parents
 must keep their children home if they do not feel well and/or they do not pass the screening
 checklist.
- Growing Together will conduct visual health checks and take the temperature of all children attending the GTFRC FDK and School Age after school program. If a child has a temperature of or above 37.8 degrees Celsius, has a fever, chills, continuous cough, barking cough, shortness of breath, decrease or loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea; they will not pass the visual health check, they will be sent home. The child will be isolated until their parents/guardian can pick them up.

Please complete the form below for all GTFRC – FDK and School Age staff who attend the afterschool program.

Date	Program	Name	Temperature	Visual Health Check Put a check mark if child appears well



Mask Exemption Form - Appendices #7

This form is to be completed in the event that a Growing Together staff, child or essential visitor requires a Mask Exemption. The following are reasons why an individual may require an exemption from wearing a mask:

- The individual has a medical condition that inhibits their ability to wear a face covering.
- The individual is unable to put on or remove a face covering without help from someone else.
- The individual is receiving accommodations according to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 or the Human Rights Code

Please note that Children under the age of 2 should never wear a face mask or face covering.

The following steps are required before a Mask Exemption can be put in place at Growing Together:

- 1. The Parent/Guardian representing the child or the Growing Together staff will meet with a physician to get the mask exemption authorized. (A Doctor's note is not required, just confirmation that a doctor has approved the mask exemption.)
- The Parent/Guardian representing the child or the Growing Together staff will set up a meeting with the Growing Together centre supervisor to complete the Mask Exemption Form.
- 3. A copy of the completed Mask Exemption form will be placed in the child or staff's folder. An ISP will be completed for all children with a Mask Exemption.

Please check the boxes below that apply to your situation.
☐ My child attends a Growing Together program.
☐ I am a Growing Together staff.
☐ I am an Essential Visitor at Growing Together.

$\hfill\square$ I have consulted with a physician and received authorization for a mask exemption.
The following are reasons why a mask exemption is required:
The following measures will be put in place due to the Mask Exemption:

Name of person requiring a Mask Exemption:
Name of Child Care location attending:
Signature of Parent/Guardian or Growing Together Staff:
Date:
Witness Signature:
Date: