



MAGIC MOUNTAIN
Child Development Centre Ltd.

COVID-19 STRATEGIES

Protecting each other is the shared responsibility among all members of the daycare community—we all have a critical role to play in following the safety protocols set out by Dr. Deena Hinshaw, Alberta’s Chief Medical Officer of Health. These protocols are intended to mitigate or reduce the risk of COVID-19, but do not eliminate all risk. The provincial plan’s focus on safety does not depend on one single strategy, but many strategies that work together to support the safest environment possible within the complex dynamics of a daycare community. These strategies include:

- cohorts
- screening for illness
- strict illness protocols
- hand-washing and sanitizing
- cleaning standards
- physical distancing
- personal protective equipment (PPE)



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SECTION I - General Procedures

1. Screening for illness

Upon entering the daycare each day, all staff and parents must complete the Government of Alberta's COVID-19 Information Screening Questionnaire to determine whether each staff or child can attend or must stay home.

- The self-screening questionnaire is available in Appendix A.
- All staff and parents will be expected to complete the questionnaire daily and review the Government of Alberta health instructions within the questionnaire.
- The completion of the forms will be checked by a staff member at the entrance, at which time they will take the staff or child's temperature.
- Staff and children who have any symptoms noted on the questionnaire **cannot** attend daycare, even if symptoms are mild. Symptoms also may not be suppressed with medication. Please inform the daycare if your child will be away.

2. Signs of illness while at daycare

If a child shows symptoms during the day, they will need to following this procedure:

- If unwell, the child will be removed from the room or distanced from others. Daycare staff who supervise the child will wear a mask and a face shield.
- The daycare will contact parents or guardians to pick up their child immediately (within the hour).
- The staff will be asked to follow health protocols around personal protective equipment (PPE) while cleaning and disinfecting the area once the child has left the daycare.
- Children and staff that are sent home or experience symptoms cannot return to the daycare until they have received a negative COVID-19 test or have self-isolated for 10 days, and their symptoms have cleared or improved. (Please see Appendix A for specific details.).

3. Persons with pre-existing conditions

Any child or staff with a pre-existing health condition that causes symptoms of illness must be tested for COVID-19 at the time of experiencing symptoms to establish a baseline for their symptoms, and need to provide the daycare with information regarding pre-existing conditions to have on file. A negative test would help show that their symptoms are related to their pre-existing condition, and not to an illness. This would establish what their baseline for being healthy looks like. As long as these symptoms remain the same, the child can attend daycare. If symptoms change or worsen, the child will need to isolate and the

daycare will contact parents to follow the daycare's illness protocols and have another COVID-19 test to determine if the symptoms are still related to the pre-existing medical condition.

4. If there is a case of COVID-19 at Magic Mountain

If health officials confirm a case of COVID-19 in a school community, Alberta Health Services will take the following steps:

- The zone medical officer of health will work with the daycare to quickly: - identify cases - identify close contacts - create isolation measures when needed - provide follow-up recommendations.
- A COVID-19 case will not automatically lead to daycare closure—it could be that only the group of children and staff who came in close contact will be required to stay home. Alberta Health Services will inform the daycare as to what steps to take.
- Parents will be notified if a case of COVID-19 is confirmed at the daycare and public health officials will contact those who were in close contact with the person.

5. Cleaning Standards

We have developed a COVID-19 cleaning standard for Magic Mountain that aligns with provincial directives around cleaning and disinfecting. These increased measures include:

- purchasing provincially recommended COVID-19 cleaning supplies;
- surface cleaning with bleach (1000ppm) as required by Alberta Health Services;
- additional training for staff;
- removing any soft furnishings and soft toys from classrooms and common areas that cannot be cleaned to provincial standards;
- removing all sensory activities;
- frequently cleaning and disinfecting high-touch surfaces such door handles and stair railings;
- more frequent cleaning and disinfecting throughout the daycare, with specific attention to washrooms, high-traffic areas and classrooms;
- having individual supplies/items designated to each child in their own container or bag, when possible;
- ensuring that toys and other equipment are sanitized after each use;
- mouthed toys are removed immediately and sanitized before further use;
- common areas such as gyms and outdoor play structures will be sanitized between each cohort.

6. Hand-washing, sanitizing and other hygiene practices

Every parent and staff who enters the daycare will be required to use hand sanitizer or wash their hands immediately. Every child will wash their hands upon entering the classroom. In this:

- Hand sanitizer stations will be established throughout the daycare.
- There are multiple sinks within each classroom.
- Staff will ensure teaching and supervision of hand washing within the classroom.
- Students and staff will be required to wash and/or sanitize their hands throughout the day, including:
 - every time they enter or exit the daycare (including going outside to play);
 - before and after they use shared equipment;
 - before and after eating.
- Children are frequently reminded, guided and supervised to follow proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette (wash hands frequently, sneeze/cough into their elbow, put used tissues in a waste receptacle and wash hands immediately after using tissues)

7. Physical distancing

Physical distancing is one important part of the Magic Mountain program. Magic Mountain will put controls in place to promote physical distancing throughout their buildings, where possible, including in classrooms, hallways, and common areas. These controls may include:

- natural staggered arrival and departure times to prevent crowded hallways;
- posting signs to support physical distancing;
- staff will physical distance from each other in the class;
- where physical distancing is not possible (ie: temperature screening, diaper changing, etc.) staff will wear masks.

8. PPE

Masks act as an important way to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19, particularly when people are indoors and physical distancing is a challenge. Staff that must enter more than one cohort, will wear a mask when entering any room. Staff will also wear a mask when serving food, when taking temperatures and when supervising children that are experiencing symptoms. All staff outside of their cohort and in any common space, will wear a mask.

SECTION II - Program Organization

1. Arriving at Daycare

Magic Mountain has developed a drop-off procedure for all families. Please note:

- Parents are required to wear masks while dropping off and picking up their children;
- Only one parent should enter the centre to drop off or pick up their child(ren);
- Parents and staff will sanitize their hands upon entering the daycare;
- Parents must distance from the family in front of them waiting to be screened and wait their turn.
- Parents and staff are required to answer the Government of Alberta's COVID-19 Information Screening Questionnaire for each child and staff;
- Each child and staff will have their temperature taken;
- Parents will take each child to their assigned room, without entering the room whenever possible;
- Children are not permitted to enter their sibling's classroom;
- One child can be dropped off at a time in each room, so parents must wait for the child in front of them to be dropped off before proceeding to the door.

2. Volunteers and Visitors

Volunteers will not be allowed in the daycare at this time. This includes guest speakers, parent volunteers and practicum students. Besides registered families, individuals authorized to enter the daycare include prospective families, child support agencies, Canada Post, delivery and maintenance personnel who support the running of the daycare, and emergency responders. These people will only enter the daycare if the COVID-19 Information Screening Questionnaire indicates they are safe and if they have no symptoms. They must also sign the school's COVID-19 visitor log. Individuals entering the school will be required to wear a mask.

3. Meals

We will continue to provide meals as set out in our Parent Handbook. Please note the following:

- Food will be individually portioned and served to each child. There will be no family style meal service.
- Staff delivering and serving food will wear a mask and will wash hands prior to serving the food.
- All children must wash their hands before and after eating, and eat only their own food.
- Only authorized kitchen staff are permitted in the kitchen.

4. Cohorts

Each room will contain a separate cohort of no more than 30 people, including regular staff. Any other staff that is required to enter a cohort for support or to cover for another staff for a break or due to absence, will be required to wear a mask and wash their hands upon entering and exiting the classroom, as well as, should social distance in the room. These staff will interact with limited cohorts. Cohorts will not mix with each other inside the centre or in the playground.

5. Transportation

Students with COVID-19 symptoms or experiencing illness will not be permitted on the bus. To help keep students and staff as safe as possible all children and staff will be required to wear a mask on the bus. The daycare will provide a clean reusable mask to each child before boarding the bus, and will collect the masks upon exiting the bus. Parents are welcome to provide their own mask for their child. If parents chose to provide their own mask, the child must be responsible for storing during the school day.

IMPORTANT REFERENCE LINK: <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/54c64016-fd3f-40f5-a259-f5e08483bb29/resource/909dab18-4117-4022-9f29-460c81070dd8/download/covid-19-relaunch-guidance-daycare-out-of-school-care-2020-0611.pdf>

APPENDIX A:

COVID-19 INFORMATION

**COVID-19 ALBERTA HEALTH DAILY CHECKLIST
(FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18)**

Overview

This checklist applies for all children, as well as all students who attend kindergarten to Grade 12, including high school students over 18. Children should be screened every day by completing this checklist before going to school, child care or other activities. Children may need a parent or guardian to assist them to complete this screening tool.

Screening Questions

1. Has the child:

(Choose any/all possible exposures)

Traveled outside Canada in the last 14 days? When entering or returning to Alberta from outside Canada, individuals are legally required to quarantine for 14 days unless enrolled in the Alberta COVID-19 International Border Pilot Project	YES	NO
Had close contact with a case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days? Face-to-face contact within 2 metres for 15 minutes or longer, or direct physical contact such as hugging	YES	NO
<p>If the child answered “YES” to any of the above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The child is required to quarantine for 14 days from the last day of exposure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the child is participating in the Alberta COVID-19 International Border Pilot Project, they must comply with the program restrictions at all times. If the child develops any symptoms, use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to determine if testing is recommended. <p>If the child answered “NO” to both of the above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proceed to question 2. 		

2. Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following core symptoms:

Fever Temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or higher	YES	NO
Cough Continuous, more than usual, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
Shortness of breath Continuous, out of breath, unable to breathe deeply, not related to other known causes or conditions such as asthma	YES	NO
Loss of sense of smell or taste Not related to other known causes or conditions like allergies or neurological disorders	YES	NO
<p>If the child answered “YES” to any symptom in question 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The child is to isolate for 10 days from onset of symptoms. Use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to arrange for testing and to receive additional information on isolation. <p>If the child answered “NO” to all of the symptoms in question 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proceed to question 3. 		

3. Does the child have any new onset (or worsening) of the following other symptoms:

Chills Without fever, not related to being outside in cold weather	YES	NO
Sore throat/painful swallowing Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or reflux	YES	NO
Runny nose/congestion Not related to other known causes/conditions, such as seasonal allergies or being outside in cold weather	YES	NO
Feeling unwell/fatigued Lack of energy, poor feeding in infants, not related to other known causes or conditions, such as depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction or sudden injury	YES	NO
Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Not related to other known causes or conditions, such as anxiety, medication or irritable bowel syndrome	YES	NO
Unexplained loss of appetite Not related to other known causes or conditions, such as anxiety or medication	YES	NO
Muscle/joint aches Not related to other known causes or conditions, such as arthritis or injury	YES	NO
Headache Not related to other known causes or conditions, such as tension-type headaches or chronic migraines	YES	NO
Conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye)	YES	NO
<p>If the child answered “YES” to ONE symptom in question 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep your child home and monitor for 24 hours. • If their symptom is improving after 24 hours, they can return to school and activities when they feel well enough to go. Testing is not necessary. • If the symptom does not improve or worsens after 24 hours (or if additional symptoms emerge), use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to check if testing is recommended. <p>If the child answered “YES” to TWO OR MORE symptoms in question 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep your child home. • Use the AHS Online Assessment Tool or call Health Link 811 to determine if testing is recommended. • Your child can return to school and activities once their symptoms go away as long as it has been at least 24 hours since their symptoms started. <p>If the child answered “NO” to all questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child may attend school, child care and/or other activities. 		

Please note: If your child is experiencing any symptoms from the lists above, do not bring them to visit a continuing care or acute care facility for 10 days from when symptoms started/until symptoms resolve (whichever is longer), unless they receive a negative COVID-19 test result and feel better.

COVID-19 INFORMATION

COVID-19 ALBERTA HEALTH DAILY CHECKLIST (FOR ADULTS 18 YEARS AND OLDER)

Overview

This tool was developed to support schools, activity organizers, employers, businesses and facility operators in reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among attendees/staff. The tool is meant to assist with assessing attendees who may be symptomatic, or who may have been exposed to someone who is ill or has confirmed COVID-19.

Attendees should complete this checklist prior to participating in the activity or program.

If an individual answers **YES** to any of the questions, they **must not** be allowed to attend or participate in the activity or program. *Individuals with fever, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, or sore throat, are required to isolate for 10 days per [CMOH Order 05-2020](#) **OR** receive a negative COVID-19 test and feel better before returning to activities.

Use the [AHS Online Assessment Tool](#) to determine if testing is recommended and follow information on [isolation requirements](#).

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, this screening tool will be updated as required.

Screening Questions

		CIRCLE ONE	
1.	Does the attendee have any new onset (or worsening) of any of the following symptoms:	YES	NO
	• <i>Fever*</i>	YES	NO
	• <i>Cough*</i>	YES	NO
	• <i>Shortness of breath / difficulty breathing*</i>	YES	NO
	• <i>Runny nose*</i>	YES	NO
	• <i>Sore throat*</i>	YES	NO
	• Chills	YES	NO
	• Painful swallowing	YES	NO
	• Nasal congestion	YES	NO
	• Feeling unwell / fatigued	YES	NO
	• Nausea / vomiting / diarrhea	YES	NO
	• Unexplained loss of appetite	YES	NO
	• Loss of sense of taste or smell	YES	NO
	• Muscle/ joint aches	YES	NO
	• Headache	YES	NO
	• Conjunctivitis (commonly known as pink eye)	YES	NO
2.	Has the attendee travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days? (Individuals are legally required to quarantine for 14 days when entering or returning to Alberta from outside Canada unless exempted by the Alberta COVID-19 Border Testing Pilot Program.)	YES	NO
3.	Has the attendee had close contact ¹ with a case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days?	YES	NO

¹ Face-to-face contact within 2 metres. A health care worker in an occupational setting wearing recommended personal protective equipment is not considered to be a close contact.