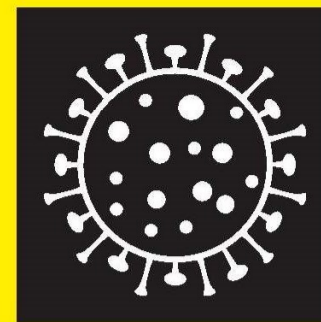


Symptoms of COVID-19 for Children attending Early Learning and Care (ELC) and School-Age Childcare Settings, including Childminding



Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice

With the current increase in cases of COVID-19 as well as other infections such as RSV and Influenza, parents and Educators/Practitioners should be particularly mindful of the symptoms of COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses. If your child displays any of the symptoms below they should not attend their setting, regardless of a negative COVID-19 test until these symptoms have passed. Even if the symptoms are mild, the child should not attend pre-school for 48 hours.

Common Symptoms of COVID-19 for Children Include:

- fever (high temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or more)
- dry cough
- fatigue (tiredness)

Less Common Symptoms Include:

- loss or changed sense of taste or smell
- blocked nose
- conjunctivitis (red or pink eye)
- sore throat
- headache
- muscle or joint pain (aches and pains)
- skin rash
- nausea, vomiting or diarrhoea
- chills or dizziness

Your child may not have all of these symptoms and symptoms may vary with different variants of COVID-19. Symptoms can take up to 14 days to develop.

Symptoms of COVID-19 can be similar to symptoms of cold, flu or hay fever. If you are in doubt about any symptoms your child has, phone your GP.

Runny nose or sneezing

If a runny nose/ blocked nose or sneezing are the only symptoms your child has, it is OK to send them to their Early Learning and Childcare setting.

But if your child has a runny nose and feels unwell or is off form, they should stay at home.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

RSV is a seasonal respiratory virus which causes almost identical symptoms to COVID-19. RSV is currently causing hospitalisations among young children. Children with symptoms matching those of RSV should not attend their settings, regardless of a negative COVID test, until the acute symptoms are 48 hours passed.

Common symptoms of RSV include: runny nose, coughing, sneezing, fever and wheezing.



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