



**Southgate Medallion
Family Day Homes**
Excellence in Child Care & Early Learning

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Southgate Medallion Family Day Homes COVID-19 Response – Updated November 3rd, 2020

The Agency would like to update the Educators on the latest procedures for the COVID-19 pandemic. It is imperative that we continue our vigilance on preventing the virus from spreading into the day homes.

The Agency takes guidance in implementing safety protocols from Alberta Health Services and Children's Services.

Educators, please use this response letter to reinforce the Agency's guidelines in keeping everyone safe in the day home.

Changes to symptoms – Under 18

The new daily checklist contains core and other symptoms. They are:

Core Symptoms

Fever – temperature of 38 degrees Celsius or higher

Cough – continuous, more than usual and not related to other causes such as asthma

Shortness of breath – continuous, out of breath, unable to breathe deeply, not related to other causes such as asthma

Loss of sense of smell or taste

Other Symptoms

Chills

Sore throat/painful swallowing

Runny nose/congestion

Feeling unwell/fatigued

Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea

Unexplained loss of appetite

Muscle/joint aches

Headache

Conjunctivitis

If a child has **ANY** of the **CORE** symptoms they must isolate for 10 days OR have a negative test result and be symptom free before returning to the day home.

If a child has **ONE** of the **OTHER** symptoms they should stay home and monitor their symptoms. If the symptom is improving after 24 hours, they can return to the day home. If the symptoms worsen after 24 hours, they must remain at home. Testing is recommended, not required. The child can return to the day home when they are symptom free and it has been 24 hours or more since the symptoms started.

If the child has **TWO** of the **OTHER** symptoms they should stay at home, testing is recommended but not required, the child can attend the day home once they are symptom free and it has been 24 hours or more since their symptoms started.

Drop-off and Collection Times

The Agency appreciates that during the forthcoming winter months, you may need to adapt drop-off and collection times within the entrance of your day home.

In accordance with the recommendations from Alberta Government “programs should develop procedures for drop off and pick up that support physical distancing **to the greatest extent possible**. Possible strategies include having one designated parent/guardian pick up and drop off each child, staggering entry, and limiting the numbers of people in entry areas.”

Holiday Season

With holiday season on the horizon, there is always a temptation to plan experiences and events that involve the families of the children attending your day home. The Agency asks that you refrain from doing so this year. The Agency understands that the holiday season is going to look very different this year, however fun and engaging experiences can still be planned for you and the day home children that don't require family involvement.

Reminders

- No sensory play
- No visits to playgrounds
- Maintain good hand washing procedures
- Continue deep sanitization techniques
- Continue screening questionnaires for new and returning parents
- Continue to take temperature of children on arrival and recording
- Report any sickness as soon as you are notified about them or become sick yourself

The agency would like to thank you for your continued hard work and adaptability as we navigate through these changes.

Sincerely,

Southgate Medallion Family Day Homes

This COVID response will be updated on a regular basis. Please contact your Consultant if you have any questions or concerns