



## What Parents Should Know About Sending Children Back to Child Care

Governor DeWine announced that Ohio's child care providers may reopen on May 31<sup>st</sup>. To keep children, their families, and teachers safe, child care providers must operate under reduced ratios and follow strict cleaning and handwashing protocols. The Department of Job and Family Services also recommends that child care providers do the following:

- Use "curbside" drop-off and pick-up when possible.
- Have a dedicated staff person escort your child into and out of their child care facility each day.
- Wash children's hands upon arrival and before departure.
- Have adults wear masks.
- Limit mixing of classrooms.
- Sanitize toys after each use and remove toys that cannot be sanitized.
- Stagger the use of communal spaces, such as playgrounds and lunchrooms, until they can be sanitized.

Collectively, these best practices will help child care centers safely serve children and families that need care.

If you are considering taking your child to child care, here is what you should know.

- Child care providers must operate under very strict cleaning and handwashing protocols. These protocols will help make child care safe for your child.
- Child care providers are limited in the number of children they can serve. If you can stay home with your child, please do so. This will help keep limited child care spots available for families that have no other child care options.
- Children run fevers for many reasons, such as teething or colds. If your child is running a fever of 100 degrees or more, do not take them to child care. Your child should stay home for at least 24 hours after their fever subsides.
- Watch for symptoms of COVID-19, such as sore throat, cough, fever, headache, runny nose, and difficulty breathing. If your child is exhibiting any of these symptoms, contact your pediatrician and keep your child home from child care.

- If your child has been in contact with someone who is suspected of having COVID-19 or has tested positive for COVID-19, you should quarantine for 14 days.
- If your child has tested positive for COVID-19, they should not return to child care for at least seven days since the onset of symptoms and at least three days without a fever, without the help of fever-reducing medicines, such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen.

Your child may notice changes to their normal child care routine. It is important to talk to your child about how they are feeling. For tips on how to talk to your child about COVID-19, please visit <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/checklists/english-checklists/talking-to-kids-covid-19-checklist>.

For additional information, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

**Your mental health is just as important as your physical health. If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call the COVID-19 CareLine at 1-800-720-9616.**

# CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

Protect yourself and others from COVID-19 by taking these precautions.

## PREVENTION

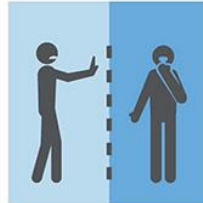
For additional information call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH or visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).



STAY HOME EXCEPT FOR WORK AND OTHER NEEDS



WEAR A FACE COVERING WHEN GOING OUT



PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING OF AT LEAST 6 FEET FROM OTHERS



SHOP AT NON-PEAK HOURS



WASH HANDS OFTEN WITH WATER AND SOAP (20 SECONDS OR LONGER)



AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES, NOSE, OR MOUTH WITH UNWASHED HANDS OR AFTER TOUCHING SURFACES



COVER YOUR MOUTH WITH A TISSUE OR SLEEVE WHEN COUGHING OR SNEEZING



CLEAN AND DISINFECT "HIGH-TOUCH" SURFACES OFTEN



DON'T WORK WHEN SICK



CALL BEFORE VISITING YOUR DOCTOR