

April 14, 2020

Hello Education Partners,

I wanted to follow up on the [Child Care Aware](#) webinar on the [CDC updates](#) for child care. There are **three new arrival screening protocols** that may be relevant for you. The *Caring for Infants and Toddlers* section now includes recommendations to wear an over-large button-down, long sleeved shirt and putting hair up when washing, feeding, or holding very young children. You can still register to see the recording of the webinar [here](#).

I have also received questions about the new CDC recommendation for wearing face coverings in child care when feasible. **Note that at this time, ADHS and Pima County Health Department (PCHD) have NOT updated their guidance on face coverings in child care.** It is my understanding that both ADHS and PCHD do not currently plan to update their recommendations; however, this may change. If ADHS or PCHD updates their guidance, I will let you know. Please remember that social distancing and hand washing are still the best ways to protect yourself.

The CDC guidelines state to wear face coverings “when feasible”. If you decide to develop a policy to wear face coverings, you may want to consider:

- **When it is feasible to wear a face covering:** During a daily health check (staff), preparing food/bottles, feeding/diapering infants; parents when dropping off children, children (2 or older) who have been isolated due to illness and staff caring for these children; medication administration; other times when close contact may be required. Wearing a face covering while eating is not recommended.
 - Cloth face coverings should NOT be put on babies and children under the age of two.
 - Face coverings may reduce the chance that **the wearer** will transmit the virus to others through respiratory droplets when someone comes within 6 feet of the wearer of the face covering.
- **Training staff, children and families:** Face masks should be put on, worn, taken off, sanitized and stored in specific ways to prevent contamination. Training for appropriate use of face coverings may be needed.
- **Ability to not touch the face covering:** If children (or staff) touch their face more with the face covering on, you may need to reconsider the use of face coverings.
- **What kind of cloth face covering to use:** See recommendations from [CDC](#), [AAP](#)

- **Storage/Sanitation:** Soiled face covering should be stored separately and sanitized before reuse. Sanitized face coverings should also be stored and distributed so as to avoid contamination before use. Multiple masks per person may be needed during the day.
- **Safety considerations:** Check that the face covering does not pose a strangulation or choking risk to children. Monitor children for signs of breathing difficulty when wearing a mask.
- **Children/staff with special health care needs:** Individuals with special health care needs may need to consult with a health care provider before using a face covering. Care plans may need to be updated.
- **Possible response from children:** Children may be scared to wear a face mask or to see caregivers wearing face masks.

Resources: Face Coverings

[CDC Face Coverings](#)

[AAP Cloth Face Coverings for Children During COVID-19](#)

[Zero to Three Talking to Children about Masks](#)

Other General Guidance Documents

[PCHD Childcare Guidance for COVID-19](#) [Guía de Cuidado de Niños para COVID-19](#)

[PCHD Person Under Investigation \(PUI\) & close Contact At-Home Guidance](#) [Guía Para Personas Bajo Investigación y el Contacto Cercano en el Hogar](#)

[ADHS Childcare Guidance Letter](#)

[CDC Guidance for Childcare Programs](#)

Please continue to reach out to me via email or at the phone number listed below with any questions or concerns you have.

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