Health and Safety Guidance for Child Care:
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Recovery Period

(Updated Dec. 1, 2021)

Pursuant to Mayor’s Order 2021-097, Resumption of Mask Requirements and Delegations of Authority to the Department of Health and the Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Section IV.3 and Section V.2 (July 29, 2021) and Mayor’s Order 2021-142, Modification of Certain COVID-19 Indoor Mask Mandates, Section II.4 and Section III.2 (Nov. 19, 2021), the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) requires all licensed child development facilities in the District of Columbia to follow all applicable mandatory DC Health guidance, which is available on coronavirus.dc.gov/healthguidance. This guidance may be superseded by any applicable Mayor’s order, regulation, or health mandate from DC Health.

This guidance is effective as of Dec. 1, 2021 and supersedes any previously released guidance by OSSE on the topic. Child development facilities shall continue to follow applicable Child Development Facility Licensing Regulations at Title 5A DCMR Chapter 1 and any subsequent Mayor’s Orders or other legal authority related to child care health and safety or reopening. For more information on the District of Columbia Government’s response to coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit coronavirus.dc.gov. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC’s) most recent, supplemental guidance for child care programs can be accessed here. OSSE will make available best practices resources to support child development facilities on the COVID-19 Guidance and Resources page of the OSSE website.

Any families or facility staff members with concerns about a facility’s compliance with the requirements in applicable DC Health guidance should email OSSE.ChildCareComplaints@dc.gov.