



# PPE BEST PRACTICES FOR CHILD CARE STAFF

## Working with Children who Are Not Known or Not Suspected to Have COVID-19

RISK LEVEL	DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDED PPE
Lower Risk <sup>1</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Six feet of physical distance cannot always be maintained.</li> </ul> AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close contact with secretions or bodily fluids is not anticipated.</li> </ul>	1. Face mask (A face mask may be a non-medical [cloth] face covering.)
Medium Risk <sup>2</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff are in close/direct contact with less than six feet of physical distance from child.</li> </ul> AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close contact with secretions or bodily fluids is possible or anticipated.</li> </ul>	1. Face mask <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If potential for bodily fluids to be splashed or sprayed (e.g., child who is spitting, coughing), use surgical mask and eye protection (face shield or goggles) instead of non-medical (cloth) face covering.</li> </ul> 2. Gown/coverall           3. Gloves must be used per existing procedures and licensing requirements (e.g., when diapering)
Higher Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff are in close/direct contact with less than six feet of physical distance from the child.</li> </ul> AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff are performing a higher-risk or aerosol-generating procedure.<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>	1. N95 mask (with access to a Respirator Fit Testing program) <sup>4</sup> 2. Eye protection (face shield or goggles) 3. Gown/coverall 4. Gloves

1 Includes: Situations in which the children are not consistently wearing their face mask; Services by related service providers in which close contact with secretions is not anticipated; Scenarios in which staff are administering the Daily Health Screening and are wearing a face mask, maintain six feet of physical distance, and are not performing a physical temperature check.

2 Includes: Close contact between a child and an educator, classroom aide, or related service provider in which close contact with secretions or bodily fluids is possible or anticipated. When washing, feeding, or holding infants or very young children, staff must wear a face mask, pull long hair off of neck, and wear a gown/coverall.

3 Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, aerosol-generating procedures include administering nebulized medication, open suctioning of airways, sputum induction, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, endotracheal intubation and extubation, non-invasive ventilation (e.g., BiPAP, CPAP), bronchoscopy, and manual ventilation.

4 Any individual using an N95 mask must have access to a comprehensive Respirator Fit Testing program. An individual who has not completed a Respirator Fit Testing program must NOT wear an N95 nor participate in higher-risk scenarios.

## Working with Children who Are Known or Suspected to Have COVID-19

SCENARIO	DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDED PPE
Staff is responding briefly to a sick child  OR Staff is escorting a sick child to the isolation room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child is wearing a face mask</li> </ul> AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child is able to maintain six feet of distance</li> </ul>	1. Face mask
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child is not wearing a face mask</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The child is not able to maintain six feet of distance</li> </ul>	1. Surgical mask 2. Eye protection (face shield or goggles) 3. Gown/coverall 4. Gloves
Staff is supervising a sick child in the isolation room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The staff member is staying with the sick child in the isolation room while they await pick-up by the parent/guardian</li> </ul>	1. Surgical mask 2. Eye protection (face shield or goggles) 3. Gown/coverall 4. Gloves

## PPE for Staff Conducting Physical Temperature Checks

OPTION	RECOMMENDED PPE
Barrier/Partition Controls	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Face mask</li> <li>2. Gloves</li> <li>3. Physical barrier (such as a glass or plastic window or partition) that can serve to protect the staff member's eyes, nose, and mouth from respiratory droplets</li> </ol>
PPE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Surgical face mask</li> <li>2. Eye protection (face shield or goggles)</li> <li>3. Gloves</li> <li>4. Gown/coverall, if extensive contact with the individual being screened is anticipated</li> </ol>

## PPE for Staff with Specific Roles

STAFF	RECOMMENDED PPE
Staff administering a COVID-19 test	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. N95 mask (with access to Respirator Fit Testing Program)<sup>5</sup></li> <li>2. Eye protection (face shield or goggles)</li> <li>3. Gown/coverall</li> <li>4. Gloves</li> </ol>
Classroom educators and staff doing routine cleaning (e.g., of high-touch surfaces)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Face mask</li> <li>2. Gloves</li> <li>3. Other PPE may be recommended based on cleaning/disinfecting products being used and whether there is a risk of splash</li> </ol>
Custodial staff AND Classroom educators and staff who are cleaning and disinfecting areas or equipment utilized by a sick individual	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Face mask <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If there is an increased risk of exposure to COVID-19 (e.g., cleaning an area occupied by an individual with symptoms of COVID-19), wear surgical mask instead of non-medical (cloth) face covering.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Gown/coverall</li> <li>3. Gloves</li> <li>4. Other PPE, including eye protection and respiratory protection, may be recommended based on the cleaning/disinfectant products being used and whether there is a risk of splash. Follow all product instructions on the product's safety data sheets (SDS).</li> </ol>
Foodservice staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Face mask</li> <li>2. Gloves (when handling food products)</li> <li>3. Additional PPE may be required per food preparation regulation and requirements</li> </ol>

<sup>5</sup> Any individual using an N95 mask must have access to a comprehensive Respirator Fit Testing program. An individual who has not completed a Respirator Fit Testing program must NOT wear an N95 nor administer a COVID-19 test.

### Notes from this document:

- These guidelines do not replace professional judgment, which should always be used to ensure the safest environment.
- Staff and children should practice good hand hygiene throughout all of the scenarios and maintain physical distance of six feet to the maximum extent feasible.
- **Wearing gloves is not a substitute for good hand hygiene.** Gloves should be changed between children and care activities, and hand hygiene must be performed between glove changes. If skin comes into contact with any secretions or bodily fluids, it must be immediately washed. Contaminated clothing should be immediately removed and changed.
- A large, button-down, long-sleeved shirt may be used as a coverall.
- To be effective, face masks must be worn correctly. Masks should be 2-3 layers of tightly woven fabric, cover the nose and mouth, and fit snugly against the sides of the face.