



Early Learning Centers
An Employee Owned Company

COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

COVID-19 Symptoms

People with the following symptoms may have COVID-19. They may appear two to 10 days after exposure to the virus. Any child or employee exhibiting any of these symptoms may not enter the center and must receive a negative Covid test before returning to school. Staff or children who develop any of these systems on site must be isolated and wear a mask until they depart from the center.

- **Fever or chills**
- **Cough**
- **Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing**
- **Fatigue**
- **Muscle or body aches**
- **Headache**
- **New loss of taste or smell**
- **Sore throat**
- **Congestion or runny nose**
- **Nausea or vomiting**
- **Diarrhea**

Pandemic Mental Health Mental health resources are available as we all continue to deal with the effects of Covid-19:

New York: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-mental-health.page>

Support hotline: 1-844-863-9314.

New Jersey: [COVID-19 and Mental Health | NJ 211](#)

Support hotline: 1-800-962-1253

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Child Vaccination

CDC Guidance: [COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Teens | CDC](#)

New York State Guidance and Resources: <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>

NYC DOH Guidance and Resources: [COVID-19: Vaccine - NYC Health](#)

NJ DOH Guidance resources:

<https://www.nj.gov/health/news/2022/approved/20220618b.shtml>

COVID-19 vaccines are available for children ages 6 months and older.

Children 5 years and older follow the same vaccine instructions as adults.

Children 6 months through 4 years old should get the same vaccine for their second (and third) doses of their primary series as they received for their first dose. They will be considered fully vaccinated two weeks after either their third Pfizer dose or second Moderna dose.

Pfizer

- Ages: 6 months to 4 years
- Doses: Three
- Schedule: Second dose taken at least 21 days (3 weeks) days after the first, and the third dose taken at least 56 days (8 weeks) days after the second.

Moderna

- Ages: 6 months to 5 years
- Doses: Two
- Schedule: Second dose delivered at least 28 days (4 weeks) after the first.

Employee Vaccination

Covid -19 Vaccine Policy for Staff

All employees are required to be fully vaccinated as defined below:

- Two weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines; or
- Two weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.
- Two weeks after having received an updated Bivalent Vaccine.

[Below are links for COVID Vaccination sites; see above section for Testing Sites:](#)

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NYC Vaccine Sites:

vaccinefinder.nyc.gov or by calling 877-VAX-4-NYC.

Free Covid Vaccine and Testing Sites NJ:

[Where can I get free, public COVID-19 testing or treatment? | FAQ \(nj.gov\)](#)

Covid Vaccines New York State (Long Island):

[Covid-19 Vaccine Finder NY State](#)

Communication

- Any positive cases or exposures within our communities (Children, parents, and staff) must be reported to the Center Administration. This includes exposures outside the center community. If any staff, parent, or children in our community have been exposed outside the center you must inform your Director and follow the proper exposure protocols found in this document. Failure of staff to inform Imagine administration of a COVID-19 exposure and follow appropriate protocols may result in disciplinary action, as it puts the entire center community, including unvaccinated children and immuno-compromised adults, at unnecessary risk.

Covid Cases, Testing, Exposure and Exclusion

EXPOSED individuals are close contacts of COVID-19-positive individuals.

The CDC defines a Close Contact as:

Close Contact through Proximity and Duration of Exposure: Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, *three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes*). An infected person can spread SARS-CoV-2 starting from 2 days before they have any symptoms (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days before the positive specimen collection date) until they meet the criteria for discontinuing home isolation.

An individual is exposed if:

They have been a close contact with a symptomatic individual who has tested positive for Covid-19, within 48 hours of symptom onset.

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OR

They have been a close contact of an asymptomatic individual with a positive Covid-19 result from a test collection date that is within 48 hours of exposure.

Isolation for positive individuals starts the day after symptoms developed or test specimen was collected, which is considered “Day Zero”.

Quarantine, if necessary, for exposed individuals starts the day after the exposure date, which is considered “Day Zero”. Day 1 is the first full day after the last contact with the positive case.

At-Home test kit results are accepted proof of illness for staff and children.

Imagine Administration reserves the right to request a PCR test result for staff.

In the event an Employee or Child exhibits COVID-19 Symptoms, is Exposed or Tests Positive for COVID-19:

Imagine follows our regular health policies as outlined in the Family Handbook for all cases of Covid-19 in New York City and Long Island where our local regulatory agencies (DOH/DOE/OCFS) have aligned with the protocols updated by the CDC on March 1st, 2024. which state:

Isolate right away if you have symptoms. Stay home until you have no fever for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine and other COVID-19 symptoms are resolved.

Please see full protocol below

[COVID-19: When You Are Sick - NYC Health](#)

[CDC Updated Covid Protocols 3/1/24](#)

The New Jersey State Health Department has not changed their COVID protocols, which remain in effect as stated in the below grid:

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Guidelines: Newark Federal Kids Care

CENTER	<u>FULLY VACCINATED</u> (Does not require Booster) CHILDREN AND STAFF :	<u>UNVACCINATED</u> CHILDREN AND STAFF:
<p>NJDYFS New Jersey Newark Federal Kids Care*</p>	<p>TESTED POSITIVE:</p> <p>ISOLATE for 5 days. Return to school on day 6 with no symptoms or improving symptoms.</p> <p>MASK until day 10 after symptom onset or date of positive test. OR mask may be removed following two negative Covid tests taken 48 hours apart.</p> <p>Children under the age of 2 or anyone that cannot consistently and correctly wear a mask can also return on Day 6 if symptoms are resolving and they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.</p> <p>Positive cases must be reported to Center Administration as they must be reported to NJDOH.</p> <p>EXPOSED: Exposed <u>Asymptomatic</u> do not need to quarantine but must test for Covid 19, and wear a mask as per the following protocols:</p> <p>Test 5 days after the last exposure.</p> <p>Mask for 10 days.</p>	<p>TESTED POSITIVE:</p> <p>ISOLATE for 10 days.</p> <hr/> <p>EXPOSED:</p> <p>Exposed <u>symptomatic</u> must be tested immediately in order to determine center exposure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarantine for 10 days until symptoms subside. • If a fever persists, after the required isolation period, isolate until the fever resolves for 24 hours, without the use of fever suppressants. <p>Exposed <u>asymptomatic</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can produce 2 negative at-home tests <u>or</u> one negative PCR test collected between days 5-7 for a return as early as DAY EIGHT of the quarantine period.

