



Protocols for Resuming Services

Information for Families and Staff
UPDATED November 23, 2020

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Travel over the holiday

- If families travel off the Island, then they are asked to cancel services for 14 days following their return.
- Staff who travel off the Island are asked to either cancel services for 14 days following return or be tested and receive a negative Covid test before returning.



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Wellness Screening - CRITICAL

SELF

- You should screen yourself everyday. By going to your shift you are affirming your are well. Do you have any of the following:
 - Cough
 - Fever or chills
 - Loss of sense of smell/taste
 - Sore Throat
 - Loss of appetite
 - Headache/body ache
 - Extreme fatigue
 - Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea

OTHERS

- Check in with the families to ensure the individual AND none of their family members are exhibiting any of the symptoms associated with COVID.
- Check if travel has occurred by family members within the last 14 days.

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New Public Health Order Info

- Most of the PHO info is related to private behaviours and to community based group business activities.
- This link has all of the new PHO information from November 19th, 2020: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions#pho-order>
- Key Info:
 - Mask wearing in public spaces (homes are not public), but staff will wear masks and parents and older children will be encouraged to wear them too.

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Handwashing



- The key control for the prevention of a resurgence in COVID-19 is handwashing.
- Staff will be required to wash their hands when they arrive at a home and before they leave.
- Use warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds.
- Bring your own tea/hand towel and keep it in a baggie.

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When is hand hygiene required

- Before and after contact with any person, their body substances or items contaminated by them
- Before putting on and after taking off gloves
- After performing personal functions (e.g. using the toilet, blowing your nose)
- When hands come into contact with any bodily fluids, or contaminated surfaces/objects



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Sneezing/Coughing - Protect Others

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow
- Throw used tissues in the trash
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Dispose of any tissues you have used as soon as possible in a lined wastebasket and wash your hands afterwards.



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Hand Sanitizer

- If you are relying on hand sanitizer instead of hand washing, it must contain at least 60% alcohol to be effective.
- The hand sanitizer must have a DIN (drug identification number). Homemade or alternative hand sanitizers are not acceptable.



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Reinforcers

- Staff, if you bring your own reinforcers to the session, you must clean them between individuals.
- Hot soapy water is best, as the soap disrupts the virus.
- You may also wipe down an item using a Lysol wipe if you prefer or if you don't have time between individuals.



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Gloves

- ❓ If you need to support nose blowing of your person served, please wear gloves for that activity.
- ❓ Also, if your person served drools and requires support to manage that excretion, please wear gloves during the session.
- ❓ Wash your hands in warm soapy water before and afterwards.



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If you have symptoms

- According to WorksafeBC, anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 such as sore throat, fever, or coughing should self-isolate at home for 10 days from onset of symptoms - please reach out to the Health Authority to be tested.
- Please organize with families to check in at a set consistent time prior to session.



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Others with COVID

- Staff and families if you live with someone who has tested positive or who is awaiting test results because they exhibit symptoms of Covid-19 and its suspected, you must self-isolate for 14 days.
- Anyone advised through contact tracing to self-isolate must also self-isolate.



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Numbers & Space

- As much as possible, maintain social distancing with family members of the individual being served.
- BC's you may need to Zoom visit a team for overlap.
- Be mindful of your off time: where are you going, who are you socializing with - are you maintaining the recommendations from the province?



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Daycares, Camps, Schools....

- We will provide support in a side room in a daycare/school setting that is one on one with the individual served.
- The table surfaces in that room should be wiped using spray solution utilized by the facility.
- Masks must be worn by our staff working in a group setting.



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PPE

- ❓ PPE (N95) masks are not recommended for health care workers unless they are working with patients with the illness.
- ❓ Masks of any sort are not recommended for children.
- ❓ Face masks (surgical style), prevent you from passing on the illness via coughing without covering/or moist talking, but do not protect you.



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Physical Distancing - School Age Learners



- If your school age learner is able to work well via Zoom, then use this practice if the family is satisfied.
- If your school age learner needs in-person supports, then maintain physical distancing as much as possible and wear a mask.
- Parents should wear masks if they are in the same space.

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Physical Distancing - Early Intervention



- Physical distancing with EI learners is often not possible.
- Cough covering by EI and some SA learners can be problematic
- Staff working with EI learners will be issued a face shield (SA too if needed)
- The face shield will protect you from unexpected, uncovered sneezes/coughs.