



COVID19 SPECIFIC PANDEMIC POLICY

In light of the COVID-19 global pandemic, we feel it is important to clarify that Dr. Bonnie Henry has confirmed and encouraged childcare centers to remain open where possible, to serve families that are needing childcare. Parents who are able, or who do not have employment that falls within the definitions of “COVID-19 Essential Services” * are requested to care for children at home. Happy Campers will continue to follow all updated protocols and procedures as outlined by the Provincial & Island Health Authorities. Given these important requirements, it is imperative that we are resolute in our health & wellness policy, and that all parents are in agreement to the following **additional** requirements:

- ❖ Children may not attend Happy Campers Child Care programs if they exhibit any symptoms of respiratory illness or fever. From the onset of any such symptoms, children must remain at home for no less than 10 days unless cleared by a medical professional and accompanied with a doctor’s note.
- ❖ Children may not attend Happy Campers Child Care programs if any family member, or individual residing in their household has exhibited any symptoms of COVID-19, any symptoms of respiratory illness, or has returned from any travel outside of Canada. In these instances, children must remain at home for no less than 14 days.
- ❖ Upon arrival at a Happy Campers facility, children must proceed immediately to a hand-washing station to complete a thorough handwashing accompanied by staff only (no parents please).
- ❖ Shared snacks will no longer be part of our daily routine.
- ❖ No backpacks or belongings from home except lunch kits are permitted inside the centers. Nap time blankets & stuffies will continue to be kept in their cubbies & will be washed weekly.
- ❖ Out trips using HC busses will be minimized, with extra sanitization and will only go to outdoor areas as approved by the governing authorities.
- ❖ Increased frequency of cleaning and sanitization of all toys & equipment (at least twice a day).
- ❖ Parents should limit their time within the Happy Campers facility to only what is absolutely necessary and maintain social distancing (6’) from staff and other children. Please limit your drop off and pick up to the cubby room only.
- ❖ Individuals residing in the household with any child attending Happy Campers are to be taking all precautions possible to limit their exposure to COVID-19.
- ❖ In light of the social distancing recommendations of the B.C. Health Minister, children are only attending Happy Campers Child Care when deemed as a necessity for care to ensure continuation of “COVID-19 Essential Service” roles as defined by the Provincial Health Officer.*
- ❖ Only registered clients may attend – no tours, drop ins or visits from outside agencies except VIHA.
- ❖ We ask that all parents familiarize themselves with the Provincial document summarizing COVID-19 facts as they pertain to the childcare environment. This can be found at the following link:

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/family-and-social-supports/covid-19/qa_covid19_childcare_settings_mar_24_2020.pdf

For the well-being of children, staff and families, open transparency and candor is required around all the above requirements. Although this may lead to some challenging conversations, Happy Campers staff and families need to acknowledge and respect their necessity and their intention of care during the pandemic. We sincerely appreciate your compliance and understanding!

*<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/essential-services-covid-19#non-health>