COVID-19 Guidance for Childcare Providers

To keep children at your facility safe, LARA has released specific guidelines for when you need to make decisions about safety due to COVID-19. These guidelines can be accessed at bit.ly/2ySiXAh and some of the most critical pieces are summarized below. If these guidelines do not answer your question, please call Barry-Eaton District Health Department at 269-798-4125.

The way you do things

IF?	THEN...
IF you are considering re-opening...	Refer to the **CDC's Childcare Decision Tree** at bit.ly/2ySiwpD to help you decide if you are ready to reopen.
IF toys will be available for play...	Avoid cloth toys as these are difficult to clean. Wooden toys are not ideal and should be cleaned and disinfected at least daily. Toys that can be cleaned and disinfected easily and frequently are best.
IF your facility has common spaces...	Limit or eliminate their use. Children should be in small groups. Large spaces can be separated with dividers if necessary and available. If common spaces must be used, rotate small groups through. During meal times, seat children six feet apart. These small groups of children should be kept consistent to avoid children being exposed to the whole group.
IF you need guidance reducing the risk of COVID-19 during pick-up and drop-off times...	Read the **CDC's Guidance for Childcare on Parent Pick-up and Drop-off** at bit.ly/2Ar3iZ1.

Your children

IF?	THEN...
IF a child arrives not feeling well...	Send the child home. Fever is the key indicator for COVID-19 in young children. If a child's temperature is above 100.4 degrees, the child should be excluded from care. Cough and/or diarrhea in addition to fever is suggestive of COVID-19.
IF a child gets sick at childcare...	Send them home as soon as possible. If the child cannot be sent home, isolate them from the other children and sanitize toys and surfaces the child may have touched. Many children will not be able to explain if they are experiencing other symptoms of COVID-19, so pay particular attention to if any child seems to be feeling "off" in any way. Encourage the child's guardians to speak to their healthcare provider and to seek COVID-19 testing for the child.
IF a child lives in a home with someone who is currently sick with COVID-19...	Send the child home. This child should be under quarantine and should not be in the community.

Your staff

IF?	THEN...
IF a staff member arrives not feeling well...	Send the staff member home and encourage staff to seek COVID-19 testing if necessary.
IF a staff member gets sick at work..	Send the staff member home as soon as possible and encourage staff to seek COVID-19 testing if necessary.
IF a staff member was exposed to someone who is currently sick with COVID-19 less than 14 days ago...	Send the staff member home. They should be under quarantine and should not be in the community.

Barry-Eaton District Health Department