



DO I NEED TO CLOSE MY CHILDMINDING SETTING?

Circumstances within your household

1 If you have tested positive for COVID-19

You must close your setting, inform the Trust and PHA, and isolate according to PHA guidance*

2 If someone in your household apart from yourself has tested positive for COVID-19

If you are fully vaccinated - then you can stay open as long as you have no symptoms AND the person who has tested positive can isolate using their own separate bathroom. You must complete a PCR test on day 2 and 8 as per PHA guidance*

If you are fully vaccinated but the positive case can't isolate from your household then you must close your setting

If you are NOT fully vaccinated - then you must isolate* and close your setting

3 If you have come into close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19

If you are fully vaccinated you can remain open as long as you have no symptoms. Complete a PCR days 2 and 8 as per PHA guidance*

If you are NOT fully vaccinated - then you must isolate* and close your setting.

4 If someone in your household has come into close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19

If they are fully vaccinated or between the ages of 0-17 years old and have no symptoms- then you can stay open as long as they complete a PCR days 2 and 8 as per PHA guidance* (0-5 years old are encouraged to do a PCR test)

If they are over the age of 17 years old and NOT fully vaccinated then they must isolate using their own separate bathroom.

If they can't safely isolate in your household or if you don't have 2 bathrooms then you must close your setting



DO I NEED TO CLOSE MY CHILDMINDING SETTING?

Circumstances within your children/family households

1 If a child in my setting has tested positive for COVID-19
They must isolate and cannot attend your setting. You and other children in your setting may now fall under the definition of a close contact and should follow PHA guidance*

2 If another member of a child's household or anyone they have been in contact with has tested positive for COVID-19.

If the child has symptoms and/or has a positive PCR test then they are required to isolate* and cannot attend your setting

If the child is under 5, has no symptoms and/or has a negative PCR test then they are not required to self-isolate and can attend your setting

If the child is aged over 5, has no symptoms or is fully vaccinated, then they can attend your setting

If the child is aged over 5, has no symptoms, and is NOT fully vaccinated, then they are required to self-isolate and take a PCR on day 2 and 8.

If the test is NEGATIVE they can return to your setting.

If the test is POSITIVE they must isolate* and cannot attend childcare

Frequently Asked Questions

1 Someone in the RCM's home/childcare facility has tested positive to COVID-19. The RCM (as close contact) is fully vaccinated and has tested negative on day 2. Can the RCM open their setting whilst there is a positive COVID-19 case within their setting?

If the person who has tested positive can safely self isolate on their own and there are 2 separate bathrooms in the household then the RCM can remain open

Guidance states: "Children and young people (aged five to 17) who are not fully vaccinated and are identified as a close contacts should self-isolate and book a PCR test as soon as possible. If the PCR test is negative, they can end their self-isolation and should arrange to take another PCR test eight days after the last known contact. If the young person who is a close contact develops symptoms at any time they should immediately self-isolate and book a PCR test, even if the earlier PCR tests were negative. If any of the PCR tests are positive, this means they have the infection and they should self-isolate for 10 days, in line with advice for confirmed cases."

2 If a parent tests positive and does not want to test their child who is under 5 years old, can that child still attend my setting, even though they are close contact, unvaccinated and have not had a negative test result?

The guidance states: "Children under the age under the age of five will be encouraged, but not required, to take a PCR test. They do not need to isolate unless they develop symptoms or have a positive PCR result."

This being said, as a RCM you are self employed and this decision will be up to you. We would advise that you keep all communication lines open with parents.

Frequently Asked Questions

3 If a fully vaccinated Registered Childminder is identified as a close contact can they still open their home to minded children if they test negative?

The Guidance states: *“From Monday 16 August, if you are fully vaccinated (more than 14 days since you received the second dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine), you no longer need to self-isolate for 10 days if someone you have been in close contact with tests positive for COVID-19. Instead of staying at home and isolating, you should get a PCR test on day two and day eight of the 10 day period following last contact with the positive person. If the PCR test is positive, whether or not you have symptoms, you are now a confirmed case and should complete a period of 10 days self-isolation from the date of symptom onset or the test was taken if there were no symptoms.”*

All regulations issued from The Public Health Agency must be adhered to.

When it comes to you accepting a child who is deemed a close contact into your setting, we would like to remind you that you are self employed and this is your own decision. The guidance issued is to help assist you with your decision. However if you do not feel comfortable accepting a child that has been deemed a close contact into your home, then the decision is up to you.

REMINDER: If you find yourself in the position of having to close your setting due to COVID-19 you **MUST** let your Early Years Team know in order for you to apply for the Temporary Closure Fund.