

What Should I Do?

Guidance for staff and families of Immanuel Lutheran Child Care Ministry

June 4, 2020

We are excited at the prospect of welcoming back children and staff June 8! We also understand that there are many new questions caregivers, parents, and staff are thinking about as we seek to show proper care for ourselves and those around us. The following list is not exhaustive, but gives some guidance based upon most recent CDC guidelines for facilities like ours.

Q: I was with a family member a few days ago who seemed fine at the time, but today started to cough and not feel well. As a parent or childcare worker, should I self-quarantine for 14 days?

A: CDC guidelines indicate that if you spend more than 15 minutes in close proximity (less than 6 feet) to an infected person, or the individual coughs or sneezes while they are close to you, and neither of you were wearing facemasks, you are at a higher risk of being infected. If the family member has not been tested for COVID-19, they should be. If they test positive, you should get tested, too, just to be sure.

Until results are known, you should wear a mask in the presence of others while at work or when you come into ILCCM.

If you develop a cough or fever, stay home. If not, remember that we will do a temperature check of all children and staff each day.

Q: My spouse or someone in my household works at a place where they had a positive COVID-19 case. Do I or my children have to stay away from our childcare for 14 days?

A: No, but we would ask you to take special precautions for that period of time. If you develop symptoms yourself (fever, cough), stay home and get tested. Even if you don't have symptoms, wear a mask while you are around other people, and where possible, keep a safe distance from them. Handwashing is part of our normal routine, so make sure to do that to protect others. Speak with your physician for further guidance.

Q: Someone in my household has tested positive for COVID-19. Should I stay home?

A: Yes, if someone in your household tests positive for COVID-19, you should also be tested, and should self-quarantine for 14 days. If there are children in the household who attend ILCCM, they should also stay home for that period. After 14 days without symptoms, you may return to work and/or to ILCCM. You should at that time have a note from your physician that would indicate you have been tested and what the results were.