



ROGERS
SOCIETY

Public Health Guidance for Child Care Settings:

- COVID-19 virus has a very low infection rate in children. In B.C., less than 1% of children and youth tested have been COVID-19 positive
- Most children are not at high risk for COVID-19 infection
 - Children who are considered more vulnerable can attend child care and Parents and caregivers are encouraged to consult with their health care provider to determine if their child should attend child care if they are uncertain
- Many children have asymptomatic disease and there is no conclusive evidence that children who are asymptomatic pose a risk to other children or to adults
- Children are not the primary drivers of COVID-19 spread in child care facilities, schools or in community settings
- Childcare facility closures have significant negative mental health and socioeconomic impacts on vulnerable children and youth
- For younger children (K - 5), maintaining physical distance is less practical and the focus should be on minimizing physical contact instead
- There is no role for screening children or staff for specific symptoms, checking temperatures, or COVID-19 testing. Such activities are reserved for health care professionals
- ALL licensed child care centres in BC have sufficient space to support physical distancing between staff without reducing the number of children in care