

INFORMATION BULLETIN

October 13, 2021

TO EDUCATIONAL CHILDCARE PROVIDERS

1. Important information for childcare services located in an environment covered by Order in Council 1276-2021 (Mandatory vaccination – Health)

On or after November 15, all persons accessing a facility maintained by a health institution, an intermediate resource (RI), a family-type resource (RTF) or a private seniors' residence (RPA) must be adequately protected.

Childcare premises located in any of these environments **AND** whose access or common spaces are shared with workers or users are affected by the Order in Council. Such childcare staff is therefore subject to the requirement to provide proof of adequate protection in order to gain access to the childcare premises in question.

A vaccination passport is the best way for someone to show that he or she is adequately protected. However, if a person has had COVID 19 in the past six months, proof of a positive test must be presented.

Parents who use childcare services must be adequately protected. However, a parent who is not adequately protected, and alone, will be considered an accompanying parent of a child under the age of 14 and therefore considered an exception.

Nevertheless, if a childcare establishment **is not located within** a targeted environment (e.g.: separate infrastructure, separate and independent access, etc.) and as a result does not involve any contact with workers or users of the environment, its employees will not be subject to the Order in Council.

2. Update on vaccination and childcare services in general

At this time, no order in council requiring mandatory vaccination for childcare staff has been issued by the government.

Moreover, educational childcare establishments are not considered places requiring a COVID-19 vaccination passport. A list of the places and activities subject to a vaccination passport is available at: <https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/progress-of->

[the-covid-19-vaccination/covid-19-vaccination-passport/places-and-activities-requiring-covid-19-vaccination-passport.](#)

However, we strongly urge all childcare services staff to get their shots without delay, if they have not already done so. Vaccination of the staff and strict compliance with health guidelines undoubtedly provide the best protection to limit the spread of the virus and to protect children and adults as much as possible from the serious consequences of COVID-19.

3. Instructions for children who have been in contact with a person having symptoms

In view of the epidemiological situation and since children attending childcare services or in pre-school (4-5 year olds) are not vaccinated yet and do not wear masks, we would like to inform you of new Public Health instructions aimed at controlling transmission of the virus in these environments.

If a child **attending childcare services or in pre-school** develops symptoms and requires molecular PCR testing, parents are asked to keep at home all **unvaccinated children who attend childcare services or are in pre-school** (kindergarten for 4 and 5 year olds) and live in the same household as the child with the symptoms:

- o If the child's **PCR** test is negative, the children may return to their respective environments;
- o If the child's **PCR** test is positive, it is important to keep the unvaccinated children isolated while awaiting Public Health instructions. The following website may be consulted for more information: [Instructions for people who have been in contact with a confirmed case of Covid-19 | Gouvernement du Québec \(Quebec.ca\)](#)

In the event that PCR testing is not performed for a symptomatic child, the child and his or her household contacts attending childcare services or in pre-school will be required to remain isolated for a period of 10 days following the onset of symptoms in the symptomatic child.

The Information Bulletin is a publication that provides periodic information updates for educational childcare providers during the pandemic. Be sure to always consult the latest version of the Bulletin because the information on a given topic will most likely be updated as the situation evolves.

If you do not find the answers to your questions on these websites, please call the Ministère's Direction de l'amélioration des services à la clientèle et de la gestion des plaintes at the toll-free number 1-855-336-8568 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.