

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

INFORMATION BULLETIN, OCTOBER 2, 2020

FOR EDUCATIONAL CHILDCARE PROVIDERS

1- Educational childcare establishments in red zones (Maximum Alert)

Educational childcare establishments remain open in all regions of Québec, including those designated as red zones (Maximum Alert). However, in red zones, attendance at these establishments is optional, and the applicable rates remain payable by the parents in accordance with their current service contract, whether or not their child actually goes to childcare.

The Ministère de la Famille (MFA) is taking all necessary measures to ensure that educational childcare establishments are not penalized by this situation.

The map of COVID-19 alert levels by region is available at <https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/progressive-regional-alert-and-intervention-system/map-of-covid-19-alert-levels-by-region/>

The protection measures in place allow safe childcare services to be offered to little children and ensure a safe work environment for staff. Clearly, it is important for everyone to be vigilant if a child presents symptoms. By working together, we can continue to ensure our little children's growth and development and our families' well-being, while at the same time minimizing the risks of spreading the virus.

A mini-poster for parents has been prepared to remind them of the main points regarding educational childcare establishments in red zones. You can download this poster at the following address:

https://www.mfa.gouv.qc.ca/fr/publication/Documents/Affichette_MFA_service_garde_ang.pdf

2- Clarifications regarding home childcare providers in red zones

With a few exceptions, visitors living at other addresses are prohibited from entering private residences.

However, this ban does not apply to home childcare providers. This means that they may continue providing childcare services. Employees of home childcare providers (e.g. their replacements or assistants) may also access the rooms used to provide these services.

It is recommended that the entry of parents or other adults who drop off or pick up a child be limited. The rules concerning the wearing of face coverings remain applicable.

3. Prioritization of screening tests

On Monday, the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux announced that screening tests would temporarily be restricted to people presenting symptoms of COVID-19 and those who have been in close contact with others who have tested positive or have been asked to go for testing. This measure is designed to concentrate efforts on tests that will increase the possibility of detecting positive cases in order to start investigations promptly and improve control of outbreaks.

The Information Bulletin from the Ministère de la Famille 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, please call the Centre des services à la clientèle et des plaintes of the MFA at the toll-free number 1-855-336-8568, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.