



General

"Every Child Can Learn... Every Child Must Learn"

Schools' Bulletin

ATTENTION: REGIONAL DIRECTORS, SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRMEN AND PRINCIPALS OF ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

SUBJECT: OPERATION OF DAY CARE CENTRES UNDER THE DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT ACT (ENFORCEMENT MEASURES) (No.14) ORDER 2020

Dear Colleagues,

In keeping with Order #14 of the Disaster Risk Management October 6, 2020 in the Jamaica Gazette Supplement, Day Care centres may operate during its regular business hours from **October 6 to October 31, 2020**. Operators are directed to ensure that the following provisions are complied with at each centre:

- Signage, appropriately customized for children and adults, advising of all the applicable health protocols for the centre, shall be conspicuously placed throughout the centre, including at each entrance.
- The staff of the centre shall be trained in, and sensitized to, all the health protocols.
- At the start of each day of operation, the children at the centre shall be instructed about health protocols and safe practices to minimize the transmission of flu-like viruses (such as properly covering the nose and mouth while coughing or sneezing).
- The centre shall, during the hours of operation, be sufficiently staffed to ensure that the children there are supervised at all times.
- Each person, other than a child aged 5 years or less, at the centre shall wear a mask fitted to that person's face so as to cover the person's nose and mouth.
- Prior to reporting for work for the first time during the period, each person employed for work at the centre shall, where possible, be tested for the SARS – CoV-2 (Coronavirus COVID-19), and shall not be permitted at the centre unless cleared as healthy for work.
- A temperature check shall be conducted on each person entering the centre, and each person at the centre shall be observed for related symptoms.
- No person with a fever (that is, having a temperature of 100oF or 38oC, or higher) shall be permitted to enter the centre.
- Any person at the centre who develops a fever or other flu-like symptoms or gastrointestinal symptoms shall be sent home.

Dr. Kasan Troupe, JP
Chief Education Officer (Acting)

-----October 22, 2020, 2020-----

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- The parent or guardian of any child displaying flu-like symptoms, fever or gastrointestinal symptoms shall be contacted immediately, and the child shall be placed in isolation and wear a face mask for the remainder of the time that the child is at the centre.
- An isolation area shall be established and maintained at the centre, for the temporary isolation of a child pursuant to sub-paragraph.
- Thermometers shall be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- All rooms at the centre shall be cleaned and sanitized at least twice daily, and door handles and other frequently touched areas and equipment (including strollers and play equipment and other toys) shall be sanitized frequently.
- No toys made from cloth shall be used at the centre.
- Touchless trash cans shall be provided for the disposal of refuse.
- Soap and water shall be the preferred methods provided for children to clean their hands and where hand sanitizers are used by children such use shall be supervised by an adult.
- Cots and cribs shall be cleaned and sanitized after each use, and crib linens shall be laundered after each use.
- Where the parent or guardian of a child provides linen for use by the child, that linen shall not be brought into the centre unless the linen is in a sealed bag made of plastic or washable material.
- Linen shall not be shaken.
- Seating and sleeping areas shall be arranged to ensure at least 91.44 centimetres (or 3 feet) between each person.
- The use of common areas shall be staggered so as to prevent large groupings of persons in those areas.
- No play equipment shall be used unless that equipment is spaced at least 182.88 centimetres (or 6 feet) apart from other play equipment in use.
- Exercise and play shall only take place outdoors, with appropriate supervision to ensure adherence to social distancing requirements and applicable health protocols (including the washing of hands with soap and water before and after such exercise or play).
- Restrooms shall be cleaned and sanitized at least once every hour during the operating hours, and each young child using a restroom shall be appropriately supervised by an adult.

Please note that the Disaster Risk Management Act (No 14) Order 2020 (pages 23-25) is attached for ease of reference. Should you require additional support and guidance you may make contact Mrs. Karlene Deslandes, Executive Director, Early Childhood Commission at 876 922-9296.

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