



Recommendations for childcares Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

3/13/2020

Childcare strategies mitigation strategies:

- At this point, we are not recommending widespread closure of childcare programs. However, we are watching the outbreak closely and may determine that closures are recommended.
- Childcare programs should **prepare** now for possible prolonged recommended closures (weeks to months).
- A critical part of the planning must include how schools can continue to provide non-educational supports for their children such as providing food, developmental disability supports, and school-based healthcare.
- Follow community mitigation strategies for childcare facilities as outlined in the [CDC community mitigation guidance](#)):
 - Social distancing measures (e.g., stagger recess times, entry/dismissal times; alter schedules to reduce interactions among students; cancel assemblies and gatherings; postpone sporting events and inter-school competitions).
 - Talk with the children's parents and make sure that they know about your illness policies, and the possible need to close in an outbreak situation so that they can begin preparing for that event.
 - Monitor for illness in children, staff and volunteers. Anyone with fevers, and cough should stay home or be sent home.
 - If your childcare has a case of COVID-19, consider short-term dismissals as needed for cleaning, and while close contacts of the ill person are identified.

For more information on COVID-19, please visit our website at:

www.idahopublichealth.com