

## Covid Response

Returning to Little Friends after illness- 2021 marks a very different time in our program. Significant steps must be taken to protect the health and safety of everyone at LF. LF will be following the CDC guidelines, including when it is safe to return to LF. LF asks that you follow these guidelines.

Children with symptoms will be evaluated by their medical provider.

- If testing for COVID is not recommended for the child based on medical judgment, they may return to LF after they are symptom free for 24 hours with no fever reducing medication. A doctor's note is required.

- If Covid testing is negative, they may return when symptom free and no fever reducing medication for 24 hours. A doctor's note and PCR test results are required.

- If Covid testing, (**a PCR test is required**), is positive, CDC guidelines should be followed for isolation and child should not return to LF until isolation is completed (at least 10 days from when symptom began and 3 days symptom free with no fever reducing medication). A doctor's note is required.

Individualization of child specific chronic symptoms (allergies for example) will be treated on an individual basis.

Siblings/children of ill, but not diagnosed child/adult household member- Siblings/children of ill child/adult household will also be sent home or asked not to attend school and will need to meet Covid return criteria as well ( negative PCR of household member). Transparency is expected from LF families.

Exposed to Covid- Children who have been exposed to a positive Covid case- should not return to school until they have met CDC isolation requirements: The CDC recommends 10 days of isolation following exposure.

Secondary exposure to Covid ( such as school-aged siblings quarantined due to exposure at school)- The CDC guidelines state that "secondary exposer" children may attend school. (In this case scenario the LF student may attend day care normally). LF stresses the need for transparency and vigilance combined with an immediate pick-up of day care child should the quarantined house member exhibit any Covid symptoms.

Covid at Little Friends- should a case occur at LF, the following steps will be taken:

- Maine CDC and DHHS will be contacted

- All families will be informed

- The Center will close according to CDC guidelines (they determine length) -exposed children and families should isolate unless vaccinated