

# MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES PLAN

Purpose: The purpose of this plan is to minimize communicable diseases for children and staff at Burlington Children's Space (BCS), and to meet Vermont Child Care Licensing Regulations. It is based on:

- VT Child Care Licensing Regulations (5.3.1 Managing Infectious Diseases)
  - <https://outside.vermont.gov/dept/DCF/Shared%20Documents/CDD/Licensing/CC-CenterBased-Regs.pdf>
- Guidance from the Centers for Diseases Control (CDC) and Vermont Department of Health for operating Child Care during COVID-19.
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>
  - <https://www.healthvermont.gov/family/babies/covid-19-guidance-child-care-and-out-school-programs>
- Internal BCS policies designed to keep children and staff healthy in order to minimize classroom closures due to illnesses and staff shortages.

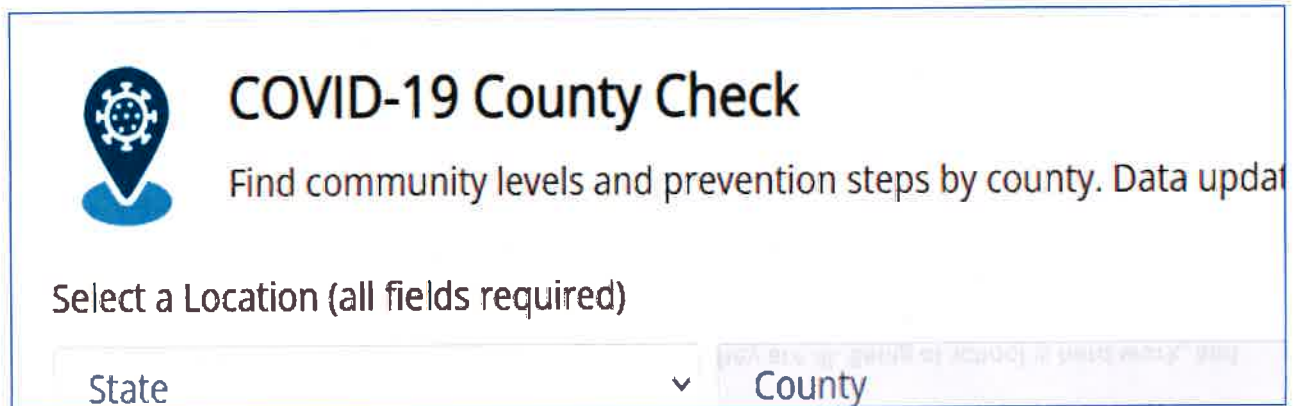
## POLICY GUIDELINES

- We require that families to keep children home if they are ill. Being at school is hard work, and navigating life with peers can be very challenging if you don't feel well. BCS is a nurturing place, however, we are unable to provide one-on-one care for sick children. **If your child's nose is running constantly, or they are coughing on others, the whole class is being impacted.**
- A daily health check is done when children arrive at the classroom per VT Child Care Licensing Regulations. Any new signs of illness or injury are reviewed prior to the departure of the parent/guardian.
- BCS follows the *Signs and Symptoms Chart* in Appendix A of Vermont's Child Care Licensing Regulations. This chart is located on the parent bulletin board in the hall. Appendix A names and identifies symptoms of illnesses for which a child will be excluded or sent home from the classroom. It also identifies communicable diseases that require a statement from a health care provider for re-admittance.
- Any child with a fever (defined by the CDC as a temperature of 100.4° or greater) must stay home until they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine.
- We follow Vermont Child Care Licensing Regulations around notifying parents in a classroom when children may have been exposed to a reportable communicable disease. CVHS uses Vermont's "Reportable Diseases" chart, from the Vermont Department of Health, to make this determination.
  - [https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/hs\\_id\\_reportable\\_disease\\_list.pdf](https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/hs_id_reportable_disease_list.pdf)

- The Executive Director is notified of illnesses documented in classrooms to determine whether or not further action is required, such as notifying parents in the classroom about the illness.
- BCS follows VT Child Care Regulations 5.3.3 (Exclusion of Children from Care) and 5.3.4 (Responding to Children Who Become Ill) as written in the regulations.

## COVID-19

BCS monitors the CDC’s COVID “Community Level” information to make determinations about scaling—up or down—prevention strategies at school.



**COVID-19 County Check**  
Find community levels and prevention steps by county. Data updated...

Select a Location (all fields required)

State  County

**Source:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

When the community transmission of COVID-19 reaches a Medium level in Chittenden County, we encourage staff, children and families to consider wearing a mask indoors at BCS if you are at high risk of getting sick from COVID.

When the community transmission of COVID-19 reaches a High level in Chittenden County:

- Staff are required to mask while inside.
- Children, ages 2 and up, are strongly encouraged to mask while inside at BCS. We recognize that masking is a learned skill for children, and we will support them in developing this skill.
- Families are required to wear a mask at drop-off/pick-up to help keep reduce transmission of COVID-19 within our community.
- Large group gatherings may be postponed until community levels of COVID-19 drop to a lower level in Chittenden County.