



Halton Region Public Health  
1151 Bronte Road  
Oakville ON L6M 3L1

December 31, 2021

Dear Child Care Operators, Parents and Guardians,

Hope you are having a happy holiday season. We want to inform you of significant changes to COVID-19 case and contact management. Due to the exponential rise in cases in Ontario, individuals who test positive for COVID-19 may not receive a call from Public Health. They are advised to follow the guidance available on our website. Public Health will continue to manage cases and outbreak in the highest risk settings such as long-term care homes and retirement homes.

If an individual has COVID-19 like [symptoms](#), assume they have COVID-19 and they must isolate for a minimum of five days. Their household members must also isolate for a minimum of five days. **Testing is not required.** The [Provincial news release](#) indicates that only select groups of individuals are eligible for PCR testing at this time. A PCR or Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) is not required to come out of isolation at the end of 5 days or return to childcare. If a child has symptoms and families have access to RATs, two negative RATs done 24 hours apart and symptoms improving allows the child to return to childcare in less than 5 days.

Public Health will **not** be managing cases or contacts in child care centres at this time. Parents and staff need to report positive cases from RATs directly to child care centres. Positive RATs must be actioned according to [Provincial guidance](#). A PCR test is not required to confirm a positive RAT.

Please have staff and families complete the updated online [self-assessment tool](#) daily. Individuals with COVID-19 symptoms are to isolate with their households, inform any additional contacts they may need to self-isolate and direct them to [Provincial guidance](#) for further direction. Please follow all [Provincial guidance](#) for symptomatic individuals.

Sincerely,

Halton Region Public Health

Regional Municipality of Halton

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