COVID-19 VACCINES
COVID-19 vaccination is strongly recommended for all eligible people in California, including providers, teachers, staff, children, and individuals sharing homes with members of our child care communities.

COVID-19 SCREENING
The CDPH has a robust State and Federally funded school testing program, as well as experts available to support school decision making, including free testing resources to support screening testing programs (software, test kits, shipping, testing, etc.)

TESTING
Follow the CDC’s Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools. Getting tested when symptoms are consistent with COVID-19 will help with contact tracing and prevent possible outbreaks in childcare settings.

MASKS & FACE COVERINGS
As of March 11, masks will no longer be required in childcare facilities. The CDPH, strongly recommends the continued use of masks for unvaccinated people.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND STABLE GROUPS
Child care settings typically have a stable group model with the same groups of staff and children each day, and providers should consider continuing to implement stable groups as a best practice. Physical distancing is an infection control practice that may be implemented as an additional safety layer between groups of children and staff to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

ESSENTIAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES
Gloves, hand sanitizer, disinfectant cleaning products, and face covering and masks should be used in child care environments. Providers may contact their local Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies or local First 5 offices for information about obtaining Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and supplies.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING
Childcare programs should follow recommended procedures for cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfection in their setting such as after diapering, feeding, and exposure to bodily fluids.

VENTILATION
Ventilation can reduce the likelihood of spreading disease and assists in ensuring a safe and healthy environment for children in care. Consider using child-safe fans to increase the effectiveness of open windows. Fans should be pointed to blow air outwards.

FOOD SERVICE AND MEALTIMES
Maximize physical distance as much as possible while eating, especially indoors. When possible, consider using additional spaces for mealtime seating, including eating outdoors or in well-ventilated spaces.

ISOLATION
If an individual tests positive, they should immediately isolate and refer to the Isolation Guidelines.

HAND WASHING AND RESPIRATORY HYGIENE
Teach and reinforce washing hands and avoid touching face. Promote hand washing throughout the day, especially before and after eating. Ensure there are adequate supplies (soap, hand sanitizer, tissues, etc.)

QUARANTINE
If an individual is exposed to someone who has tested positive, please refer to the Quarantine Guidelines.

RESOURCES
General Resources
Riverside County COVID-19 Vaccine Riverside County COVID-19 Testing 2-1-1 Resource Database Covidtests.gov

Family Resources
CDC FAQ’s for Parents and Caregivers on COVID-19 School Precautions Know What to Expect at Your Child’s School or Education Program CDPH Parent Page

Childcare Videos
How to Prevent COVID-19 in a Childcare Setting Steps for an Exposure in a Childcare Setting

Childcare Provider Resources
COVID-19 Guidance for Operating Early Care and Education/Child Care Programs COVID-19 Assistance for Families and Providers Guidance for Child Care Providers and Programs

Mental Health Resources
CDC Stress and Coping SAMHSA’s National Helpline Office of Child Care: Mental Health and Wellness The National Child Traumatic Stress Network

CONTACT INFORMATION
The PH School Team can be reached at RIVCO-Schools@ruhealth.org or 951-289-4638 Riverside Community Care Licensing: 951-782-4200 Resource and Referral Services: RandR@rcoe.us

For more information, please visit www.rivcoph.org/coronavirus