

FROM THE DESK OF

# Little Lambs Home Daycare Inc.

In partnership with HPEPH

April 6, 2020

Letter to parents/guardians with children at Emergency Childcare program,  
COVID-19

**Dear Paren't/Guardians,**

In response to the need for Emergency Childcare Facilities for health care and other frontline workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Ontario has authorized some licensed childcare centres/home child care agencies to provide childcare for those workers. Little Lambs Home Daycare is taking steps to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of your child/ children while in our care.

We are:

- Following all health and safety requirements specified by the Ministry of Health for Emergency Childcare Centres, as well as the Medical Officer of Health, in the running and maintenance of our facility.
- Conducting active screening for symptoms of COVID-19 and other illnesses for all children, staff and visitors. We are refusing entry to staff, children and visitors who do not pass screening or who appear ill.
- Increasing the frequency of the cleaning of home child care premises', equipment and surfaces, to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus.
- Limiting groups of children to five (5) or six (6) maximum. Currently Little Lambs Home Daycare is placing no more than 3 Emergency Clients per home child care program.
- Ensuring physical distancing is maintained for staff and children, where ever possible. (for example, increasing the space between mats).
- Ensuring toys, food, equipment are not exchanged.
- Washing hands frequently throughout the day, along with practicing other hygiene activities to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

- Adopting policies and procedures for the management of children and staff showing signs of COVID-19, as well as ensuring safe return to care.
- Notifying all parents promptly if a child or staff member has been identified as a possible or confirmed case of COVID-19.

### **When to keep your child at home**

To help protect the health of everyone at the child care premises and their families:

- Check your children's temperature daily before coming to the childcare setting.

If the temperature is equal to or greater than 38 degrees Celsius, or if your child/ children have any cold-like symptoms or vomiting and/or diarrhea, they should stay home.

• You should also self screen every day before coming to the child care premises by asking yourself these questions:

- Do you or anyone in your house have any of the following symptoms: fever, and/or new onset of cough, or difficulty breathing (for example, struggling for each breath, cannot hold breath for more than 10 seconds)?
- Are you or is anyone in your home experiencing any of the following symptoms (or a combination of these symptoms): muscle aches, fatigue, headache, sore throat, runny nose (note symptoms in young children may also be non-specific such as lethargy, poor feeding)?
- Has anyone travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days?
- Have you or anyone in your home had close contact with a person who is sick with respiratory symptoms (for example, fever, cough or difficulty breathing)?

If the answer is yes to any one of the questions above, do not come to the child care premises. Contact Hastings Prince Edward Public Health at 613-966-5500 or 1-800-267-2803 for assessment and further direction.

Please contact us if you have further questions.

Regards,  
Kristina Schwartz, Founder/Director LLHDC

